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PRAVDA Reports on Kampelman Interview

PM201229 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Oct 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Optimistic Mood"]

[Text] Washington, 17 Oct—On Friday Max Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks, met with a group of journalists from the socialist countries and answered a number of questions on U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz' upcoming visit to the USSR.

"We are going to Moscow in a positive mood, in a mood of some optimism," he stressed. "I know that Secretary of State Shultz very much hopes for intensive, positive, and productive talks with USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and other members of the Soviet Government with whom he may have meetings."

"I am not aware of any holdups in the talks on a treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles," he continued. "The Geneva arms control talks are continuing, and their eighth round is now being held. A huge number of problems have been resolved and work is under way in both our capitals to resolve a number of remaining difficult problems. The members of both our delegations in Geneva are carrying out extremely intensive work in all spheres of the arms control talks."

Dwelling in particular on the talks on the treaty to eliminate medium-range and operational-tactical nuclear missiles, he admitted that "there are still disagreements here."

"The accords reached between Secretary of State Shultz and Foreign Minister Shevardnadze during the latter's visit to Washington are extremely important. They concerned the key problems which existed at the time," he indicated. "Now work is under way on specific details. The details must be discussed and we still have disagreements regarding the details. For instance, the specific language in which the resolution of the problem of the West German Pershing-1A missiles will be discussed. Taking into consideration the accords between Shultz and Shevardnadze, I do not think that we are unable to resolve this problem."

He stated that he shares the opinion of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, that a treaty on the elimination of medium-range and operational-tactical missiles can and must be signed by the end of this year. "It may even be signed earlier, but I am afraid to make any predictions now," M. Kampelman said. "I do not think that either side wants to be a 'prisoner of the calendar.'"

At the same time M. Kampelman indicated that "a huge number of problems remain" and that he "would not like to minimize the gravity of these problems." In particular, he stated that this applies to the question of the reduction of strategic nuclear armaments and the "Strategic Defense Initiative."

Fund To Finance Decommissioning of AES

PM161021 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian13 Oct 87Morning Editionp 4

[Unattributed report: "Common Fund Created"]

[Text] An agreement has been signed in the International Investment Bank to create in the bank a common fund for financing work on the problem of decommissioning AES's after the end of their period of service in accordance with the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000. The basis of this agreement is a treaty to create an international economic association [tovarishchestvo] of interested organizations from Bulgaria, the USSR, and the CSSR—The "Energetika" Association, Sofia; the "Energiya" Science-and-Production Association and All-Union AES Exploitation Research Institute, Moscow; and the Nuclear Power Station Research Institute, Turnava.

The agreement was signed by the following: A.A. Abagyan, general director of the "Energiya" Science-and-Production Association and All-Union AES Exploitation Research Association, which is the main organization in the aforementioned problem, and A.N. Belichenko, chairman of the board of the International Investment Bank.

Briefs

SFRY Signs CEMA Convention

Moscow, October 15 (TANJUG)—Ambassador Budimir Lazovic, head of the permanent Yugoslav mission to the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (Comecon), signed a convention here today on the system for certifying quality of products in commodity exchange between Yugoslavia and this economic grouping's countries. The agreement on nomenclature for specialization and cooperation in the production and delivery of equipment for nuclear power plants was extended by a separate protocol to be in force by the year 2000. The existing agreement covers the 1981-1990 period. The protocol provides for equipment deliveries by Yugoslav enterprises for nuclear power plants being built in Comecon countries. [Text] [*Belgrade TANJUG in English 1248 GMT 15 Oct 87 LD*]

Gerasimov Holds Press Conference 20 Oct

Comments on Dow Jones Index

LD201558 Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—October 19 has been justly called a "black Monday" by analogy with events at the New York Stock Exchange on the "black Friday" on October 29, 1929, according to Gennadiy Gerasimov, a spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

Speaking at a briefing here, Gerasimov, who heads the ministry's Information Directorate, said the dynamics of stock quotations largely reflected the evaluation of the state of the national economy by business, as well as the monopolistic circles' reaction to various developments in international political and economic affairs.

"In connection with the U.S. military action in the Persian Gulf a comparison comes to mind with the U.S. air raid on Libya in the spring of 1986, which also caused a steep drop in stock value at the New York exchange," Gerasimov said.

He attributed the unprecedented fall of the Dow-Jones Index by 500 points to the panic fear of investors and stockbrokers to lose their profits.

With an enormous U.S. Federal Budget deficit, a U.S. balance of payments deficit of many billions of dollars and manipulations with the dollar and lending rates, the international financial system had really become greatly overstrained, Gerasimov said, adding that individual events such as a regional conflict or an irrespondible statement by some figure could trigger off a crisis of confidence with grave consequences there.

For this reason he urged nations to take into account the international implications of their decisions, either political or economic.

Condemns U.S. Restrictions

LD201409 Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman today criticized further restrictive measures against Soviet nationals and institutions in the United States over recent weeks.

Speaking at a briefing here, Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, said the State Department had maintained a purposeful policy of hardening living and working conditions for Soviet official representatives, correspondents and businessmen in the United States ever since November 1983, when new rules were adopted for trips by Soviet diplomats around the United States.

"Even if one disregards the political side of the matter, one can only be surprised at the legal grounds for the new restrictions.

"Not only have the bureaus of newspapers that can hardly be described as government ones been included in the category of official missions, but the same category has been made also by the commercial offices of Amtorg, Sovfracht and Belarus machinery, which have been registered in keeping with U.S. law and are consequently regarded as American companies.

"By placing them in special conditions, the State Department is throwing up further obstcales to developing trade and economic relations between the USSR and the United States," Gerasimov said.

"In our view, the practice of coming up with ever further irritants in Soviet-American bilateral relations runs counter to the spirit of the times and is a leftover of the confrontational approach," he added.

Views U.S. Gulf Attack

LD201231 Moscow TASS in English 1223 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—Having attacked two Iranian oil platforms on October 19, the United States is in fact becoming a participant in the military conflict, a Soviet foreign ministry spokesman told a briefing here today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, said that the U.S. was one of the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and bore special responsibility for maintaining international peace and security.

The U.S., he said, co-authored Resolution 598 of the Security Council, and its actions ran counter to Paragraph 5 of the resolution calling for maximum restraint and absention from any actions that might result in the further escalation and broadening of the conflict.

The attack was carried out at civilian facilities of a sovereign state, said the Soviet spokesman, which was an obvious violation of international law. The Soviet Union had repeatedly warned about things that were happening now. The causes of the escalation were not only in the continued conflict between Iraq and Iran, but also in broadening U.S. military presence and interference in the region's affairs. U.S. actions were unacceptable from the viewpoint of international law, politics and morality.

"It is noteworthy that the U.S. informed the Security Council and, thus, the Soviet Union about its military action after it had actually taken place.

Rejecting use of power methods as a totally unacceptable means of normalizing the situation in the Persian Gulf, the Soviet Union does not limit itself to criticism of someone else's actions.

The Soviet side has advanced specific and quite realistic proposals directed at settling the Iran-Iraq conflict and defusing tension in the Gulf zone," Gerasimov said.

"The Soviet Union suggested that foreign navies be withdrawn from the Gulf and a U.N. naval force be set up to replace the fleets of the non-littoral states in that region.

It is not as yet late to start implementing these proposals. The Military Staff Committee of the U.N. Security Council could handle the issue. We call for invigoration of its activity.

We reaffirm the conviction that it is necessary to fully comply with Resolution 598 and extend all necessary assistance to the U.N. secretary-general's mission for these purposes," Gerasimov pointed out.

Gulf Action Influences Talks

LD201736 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—TASS diplomatic correspondent writes:

The U.S. strikes at two Iranian civilian facilities is a new twist in the Persian Gulf tension, one more circumstance that complicates the quest for ways to end the Iran-Iraq war and ameliorate the situation in the region.

At today's briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists at the Soviet Foreign Ministry's press centre many questions were put on the situation in that explosive region. Anxiety over U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf area, which all but adds oil to the fire, ran through most of them. And indeed, the situation there is too much heated up and unpredictable for washington to act as imprudent and irresponsible.

Moscow waits for the arrival of U.S. State Secretary George Shultz to continue Soviet-U.S. talks. So, the question whether the U.S. shells at two Iranian oil platforms will affect the course of the forthcoming talks in Moscow was quite legitimate. Responding to it, Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, recalled George Shultz's statement in this connection in which he said that they would not affect them. But, Gerasimov went on, since Soviet-U.S. talks will also involve a discussion of regional conflicts, this action cannot but exert its influence on them. We live in an integral and interdependent world, so all countries should take into account the international consequences of their national decisions. The moves to build up U.S. military presence set off a genuine panic in the West's business and financial quarters. On Monday, the share index plunged down to an unprecedented 500 points on the Dow Jones industrial average.

The arguments by the U.S. Administration that in shelling civilian facilities, the United States supposedly acted in line with the U.N. Charter do not hold water. True, article 51 of the U.N. Charter really envisages certain situations where a sovereign state should act by virtue of self-defence. But the United States has been speaking for too long a time and too much for the whole world to hear about its intentions to punish Iran and that state is located at too great a distance from its boundaries for one to treat seriously the thesis of self-defence. More, the United States has violated one of the fundamental provisions of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 which calls for displaying maximum restraint and refraining from any actions that can lead to a further escalation and expansion of this conflict. This is the resolution for which it itself voted.

So, Iran can hardly be expected to improve its attitute towards this most important resolution following the demolishing by the United St ates of Iranian drilling rigs. It is high time for Washington to relinquish the double role it assumed, the role of chief justice and executioner. It is scrupulous fulfillment of the decisions of the world community rather than gun volleys that can put an end to the conflict in the Persian Gulf.

U.S. Contravenes UN Charter

PM211117 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 87 Second Edition p 5

[A. Lyutyy report: "At the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Text] The explosive situation in the Persian Gulf following the U.S. attack on the Iranian oil platforms was the main topic at the briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists held yesterday at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Cewnter. G.I. Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Department, declared that the United States has now "essentially become a participant in the military conflict." Meanwhile, the United States, as one of the permament members of the UN Security Council, bears special responsibility for maintaining international peace and security.

Question put by *Pravda*: What is your comment on the statement of Walters, U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, that in the given case the United States was exercising its right to self-defense?

Reply: The United States acted in contravention of the UN Charter. It invokes Article 51 on the right to self-defense, however the situation in the given case did in no way resemble a situation compelling the United States to make use of this right. Furthermore, prior to the attack, the United States was discussing ways to punish

Iran. So that all this seems far-fetched, especially if you turn your attention to the fact of how far from its own borders the United States is exercising this "right to self-defense."

The USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman further described the recent State Department restrictive measures applied to Soviet journalists as an attempt "to make working conditions more difficult" for Soviet citizens in the United States.

Question put by *Pravda*: Does the Soviet side intend to adopt countermeasures in respect of U.S. journalists in the USSR?

Reply: There are no plans to adopt such measures because we believe that the United States is deliberately "putting pressure" on Soviet journalists in order to provoke us to take coutermeasures here. In that case, they reckon, U.S. journalists would write less about restructuring, which would probably suit certain circles in the United States.

Gulf Dangers; Stalin Archives

PM211113 Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 Oct 87 p 3

[TASS report: "At the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Text] The political barometer shows that the Persian Gulf has become a most dangerous "high pressure zone." This fact is confirmed by the activeness with which those taking part in the USSR Foreign Ministry press center briefing on 20 October asked about the possible consequences of the military action by the United States, whose ships have attacked two Iranian oil platforms, and about the Soviet Union's attitude to it.

Setting out the Soviet side's position, G.I. Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration, noted that the Soviet Union had repeatedly warned about the likelihood of what is now happening in the Persian Gulf. The reasons for the escalation are to be found not only in the continuation of the Iraq-Iran conflict but also in America's expanding military presence in the region and interference in its affairs. America's actions are unacceptable from the viewpoint of international law, politics, and morality.

The situation in the Persian Gulf is too inflamed and unpredictable for injudicious and irresponsible action.

False rumors and fictions spread by the foreign mass media were also dismissed at the briefing. It was noted, for instance, that the BBC repeatedly claims that "archive documents from Stalin's era are being destroyed in the USSR to prevent the discussion of this theme."

For the BBC'S information, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said, the USSR State Archives, which consist of 3,273 collections, is a national asset and state property. No one has the right to destroy this state property. It is absolutely impossible for archive documents to be destroyed by some secret, local means.

Iranian Oil Minister's Visit

LD201344 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, October 20 TASS—The visit by the Iranian minister of oil, Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, to this country, which took place on October 15 through 17 at the invitation of the State Committee for External Economic Relations and the Ministry of Foreign Trade, has been a followup on contacts held between representatives of the USSR and Iran recently, especially this year, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told newsmen at a briefing here today.

Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, added that during the meeting the Iranian minister had had in the USSR the sides had considered the issues of broadening bilateral economic cooperation, in particular that in the field of oil.

Gerasimov said further that agreement had been reached in principle to hold talks on the possible supply of Iranian oil to the USSR for processing at Soviet refineries and of oil products to Iran and on related Soviet technological assistance to the Iranian side.

The spokesman said the meetings had been held in a constructive and businesslike atmosphere.

USSR Delegation in Israel

LD201321 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—A Group of consulate personnel from the Soviet Foreign Ministry was sent to Israel in the middle of last July to settle issues connected with the stay of Soviet nationals in that country, inspect the condition of Soviet real estate property there, and clarify its legal status, newsmen were told at a briefing today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, told them also that it had become clear in the process of the work that it would take more time than originally expected to complete it.

That applied first of all to Soviet immovables in Israel, he said. Taking stock of them was a time-consuming job and despite the large amount of work done by the group, some related matters remained outstanding, he added.

That was why, Gerasimov explained, it had been found expedient to extend the stay of the Soviet group in Tel Aviv in agreement with the Israeli side.

The group's status and functions remained unchanged and no new tasks were added to its original mandate, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Reiterates CW Destruction Plans

LD201616 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1335 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, 20 Oct (TASS)—The spokesman for the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated today that the Soviet Union has stopped the production of chemical weapons and has embarked on construction of a special enterprise for the destruction of chemical weapons in the area of the town of Chapayevsk. He made this statement at a briefing in connection with claims by the Hamburg daily *Welt am Sontag* that the Soviet Union has an overwhelming superiority in the field of chemical weapons, and that outdated models were ostensibly shown in Shikhany when specimens of Soviet chemical weapons were on display. The daily added that the USSR is allegedly intending to increase its stocks of chemical weapons.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, referred to such claims as "insinuations." "Any insinuations concerning the Soviet Union's preparations to step up its chemical arsenal are unsubstantiated. They can be explained by an intent to cast shadow on our policies. On the contrary, we have work underway on preparing a convention on the elimination of chemical weapons, and on the elimination of our chemical weapons strictly within the time limits set by the convention. The USSR stands for the speediest possible conclusion of this convention and will do everything in its power, as far as openness and trust measures are concerned, in order to complete the talks successfully," he said.

RSA Military Activity in Angola

LD201653 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1338 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, 20 Oct (TASS)—Military activity by the RSA regime in south and southeast Angola has recently intensified, while the concentration of RSA troops in northern Namibia continues, Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Department at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated at a briefing held here today. The RSA defense minister, he continued, has admitted that the RSA troops are acting on Angolan territory with the so-called aim "of defending RSA national interests," and rendering assistance to the UNITA [National Union For Total Independence of Angola] gangs. The possibility of the RSA preparing for a large-scale invasion into the south of Angola is not ruled out.

The Soviet Union, spokesman stressed, shares Angola's concern, which was expressed in the People's Republic of Angola Ministry of External Relations statement of 16 October on the increased aggressive actions of the RSA.

Regret Over Sri Lanka Bloodshed

LD201512 Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—A Soviet foreign Ministry spokesman today expressed regret over continued bloodshed in Sri Lanka.

Replying to journalists' questions at today's briefing here, Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, emphasized that the Soviet Union favoured compliance with the Indo-Lankan agreement, surrender of arms by the Tamil Tigers and political settlement.

Cooperation Against Drug Trade

LD201521 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1439 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, 20 Oct (TASS)—A meeting of Soviet and British experts has been held in the USSR Foreign Ministry to agree on a draft intergovernmental memorandum on cooperation in the sphere of the campaign against drug addiction and illegal drug imports, Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Inormation Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said here today at a briefing.

Experts, he said, have virtually agreed on the text of the memorandum. It is to become a legal basis for the development of direct cooperation between health organs, customs services, and other competent organizations of the two countries. In the near future the draft will be approved and prepared for signing.

Welcomes Takeshita Election

LD201529 Moscow TASS in English 1516 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman today welcomed the appointment of Noboru Takeshita as leader of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party.

Responding to a Japanese journalist's question at a regular briefing here, Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, expressed the hope that Japan "will embark on improving Soviet-Japanese relations."

"It seemed to us a year ago that relations between our countries are improving. Regrettably, many episodes have occurred lately, which attest to the contrary," Gerasimov said.

"We hope that the situation will be rectified," he added.

PRAVDA Views Gulf War, CEMA, Missile Talks

PM201233 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Oct 87 Second Edition p 4

[Arkadiy Maslennikov "International Review"]

[Text] Our planet has become a troubled place for human life. The modern world is to all intents and purposes encountering a situation whereby the destructive consequences of scientific and technical discoveries threaten to prevail over their creative potential. The creations of human genius — diverted into the creation of more and more effective means of mass destruction — could by oversight or malicious intent wipe their creators from the face of the earth along with all life on our planet...

That is why people worldwide pay such attention to every piece of good news concerning the building of more sensible and constructive relations among the peoples and the application of their creative energy for the common good.

New Stage of Cooperation [subhead]

Last week such a piece of hopeful news again came out of Moscow, where the 43d (Extraordinary) Meeting of the CEMA Session was being held. Delegations from 10 CEMA countries took part in the session. The main task for the meeting participants was to discuss the urgent problems of restructuring the mechanism of multilateral cooperation, socialist economic integration, and CEMA activity.

The discussions that were held and the documents that were approved noted that the division of labor and the economic cooperation undertaken on that basis between the socialist CEMA countries are now entering a new stage, when the center of gravity is shifting from the sphere of simple trade to the sphere of science and production. This approach reflects the stage that has now been reached in the economic evolution of the socialist community countries and the intensive growth factors that have been brought to the fore. It takes full account of the restructuring processes taking place in the USSR and the other socialist countries, during which an ever greater role is beginning to be played by economic factors in running the economy and, consequently, in relations between the CEMA members. Under these conditions the expanding cooperation and the deeper division of labor can and must ensure considerable acceleration in the economic development of all CEMA states, faster growth in their peoples' prosperity, and the streamlining of their positions in the world economy.

The ideas that were noted were reflected in the decisions and recommendations worked out by the conference on specific questions. For instance, the importance of coordinating economic policy in spheres linked with reciprocal cooperation, bringing national economic plans into line, and improving the mechanism of cooperation, its plan and commodity-money instruments, and foreign exchange, financial, and credit relations was stressed. It is planned to draw up a collective concept of the international socialist division of labor in 1991-2005.

The agreement that economic, scientific, and technical cooperation among the CEMA countries will be carried out at three interrelated levels—between governments, between sectors, and directly between associations, enterprises, and organizations on the basis of the development of production, scientific, and technical production—cooperation is of fundamental importance.

All our countries have a stake in improving the effectiveness of CEMA'S work. That is why it is deemed necessary to substantially improve the CEMA structure and to eradicate the multiplicity of levels and parallelism in its work.

While developing and deepening reciprocal cooperation, the CEMA states are not shutting themselves away within their own specific problems. The session participants expressed concern at the arms race—particularly the nuclear arms race—and the attempts to spread it to space. They welcomed the Soviet-U.S. accord on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles and advocated that a corresponding treaty be signed as soon as possible.

Justifying the Peoples' Expectations [subhead]

It must be said that this is now impatiently awaited worldwide. Even the United States, where until comparatively recently any talk about reducing nuclear arsenals was assessed as a sign of "weakness" and "capitulation to the Russians," sentiments of a different kind are now gaining ground.

And the point is not just that R. Reagan—who wants, as many U.S. observers believe, to crown his presidency with a disarmament action—is one of the coauthors of the planned agreement. The reason for the turnaround—including in Reagan himself—goes much deeper. It lies in the clearer and clearer awareness on the part of millions of Americans of the futility and danger of the nuclear race, their growing realization that their country can no longer lay claim to invulnerability, and that in the event of a nuclear conflict inevitable death would await them.

That is why the White House incumbent is today stating that he would like to reach agreement on reducing nuclear arsenals. The same statements are now being made by Vice President G. Bush, who is officially running for president in next year's elections. "I support a treaty on medium-range means," he stated, calling on all Democrats and Republicans to adopt the same position. "Bush's readiness to make the treaty a subject in the election campaign," *The Washington Post* correspondent D. Hoffman writes, "leads one to think that the Republicans' election campaign will be at least partly concentrated on arms control agreements with the Russians."

In the light of this the report published by the institute for the study of security problems in East-west relations is interesting. It is entitled: "How America Should React to the Gorbachev Challenge." The writers of this research proceed on the basis that the conclusion of a Soviet-U.S. treaty on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles is virtually predetermined, and that this event should prompt Washington to study the wider spectrum of problems in Soviet-U.S. relations with a view to finding ways of strengthening international stability and placing these relations on a firmer and longer-term footing. "The United States and its allies," the report writers sum up, "should respond creatively to Gorbachev's initiatives. To do so the West must have a clear grasp of what its political goals and priorities should be. The new political thinking in the East requires new political thinking in the West."

Interest in the prospects for developing Soviet-U.S. relations is now particularly great. U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz will arrive in Moscow in a few days' time. Agreement on this was reached in the middle of last month during a visit to Washington by the Soviet foreign minister. Intensive talks were held there at the time, first and foremost on the question of medium- and shorter-range missiles, resulting in a fundamental accord for concluding a corresponding agreement.

Particular attention during the forthcoming dialogue will be devoted to coordinating the articles of the treaty that is being drawn up on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles, and to questions of strategic offensive weapons limitation under the conditions of the unswerving observance of the ABM Treaty. Clearly, the treaty on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles will contain 16-18 articles. Most of them have already been agreed, however 3 or 4 are still between square brackets—that is, they require further work. It is very important to clearly register the sides' commitments regarding the strict observance of the treaty provisions. We insist that any loopholes that would permit the retention of the missiles in question be closed and that any possibility of such weapons being transferred to other countries be ruled out.

Secretary of State G. Shultz also made his own assessment of the prospects for the forthcoming Moscow visit. In Washington he stated that the participants in the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva had "done an enormous amount of work" on preparing a medium-range and operational-tactical missile agreement. "It is obvious to us," Shultz said, "that the Soviet side is serious about completing the work. I am confident that it is obvious to them that we too approach the matter in exactly the same way. But I cannot say whether it will be possible to complete the work before I go to Moscow, as unresolved issues still remain." The secretary of state said that he was also planning to discuss questions of bilateral relations and regional conflicts in Moscow, including the Iran-Iraq war.

However, G. Shultz is clearly by no means prepared for realistic movement in everything. This applies to his attitude to nuclear testing. He has claimed that as long as nuclear weapons exist they must be tested. In this sense, the secretary of state noted, we disagree with the proposal that testing should be stopped. Shultz has stated that in talks with the USSR the United States is prepared to talk merely about "steps to verify nuclear tests."

The motives for this proviso are unambiguous. In certain areas the administration's hands may be tied. Far-right circles and the military-industrial complex often leave no room for maneuver in policy and begin to mobilize as soon as they sense the "threat" of detente and disarmament. In this context a letter sent to the White House by 20 Republican senators headed by the well-known J. Helms is typical. Its writers try to accuse the USSR of some kind of "new violations" of existing arms control agreements. This time it is no longer the "Krasnoyarsk story" that is used but a version about so-called "mobile missile-tracking radars," which are allegedly incompatible with the ABM Treaty. Although the U.S. Government itself believes that such accusations are groundless, right-wing senators are continuing to whip up their propaganda campaign in an attempt to convince the public that the Soviet Union cannot be trusted, and that therefore the planned treaty should be shelved.

I think, however, that now, at the concluding stage of 1987, these forces will hardly succeed in changing the mood of the majority of Americans, who support agreements to end the nuclear race and improve Soviet-U.S. relations. Their expectations were expressed by *The Philadelphia Inquirer*: "The United States and the Soviet Union are on the threshold of a new era of detente far more promising regarding its potential for curbing the nuclear arms race than any other similar period in the last 30 years." It is the duty of our two countries to justify those hopes.

Burning Gulf [subhead]

The threat of global shocks currently proceeds not only from the nuclear arms race but from the regional conflicts raging in various parts of the world. The most dangerous of these today is the Iran-Iraq War.

Over the past 7 years or so the fires of this war have consumed more than 1 million human lives. The list of casualties increases with every passing day, and not just through losses at the front itself, but also among the civilian population, including women, children, and old people. This week the world was shaken to learn of a new exchange of strikes between the warring sides. In the Iraqi capital of Baghdad a primary school, under whose ruins several dozen children died, was destroyed as a result of a missile attack. Iraqi Air Force bombing raids on "targets deep inside Iranian territory" also cost civilian casualties. All this piles up more and more obstacles in the way of ending the war.

Of course, matters—including the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598—are not helped by the increasing presence in the Gulf of the naval forces of the United States and its NATO allies. On the pretext of ensuring freedom of navigation and protecting the West's "vital interests," Washington has concentrated its largest peacetime naval grouping in the area.

Around 80 warships belonging to Western countries have already gathered in the area. More than half of them are U.S. battle groupings equipped with dozens of helicopters, assault means, and other resources for conducting military operations both on land and at sea. However, there is not even any mention of the "stability" promised by Washington. On the contrary, the situation is becoming more and more heated. The U.S. command uses any excuse to engage in direct hostilities against Iran. It was sufficient, for instance, for a group of Iranian launches to appear last week within the operating area of U.S. helicopters for them to be fired upon with missiles, resulting in several Iranian vessesls being sunk.

"It has already been around 3 months since the United States started building up its military might in the area, yet the Persian Gulf has become an even more dangerous region for shipping," a representative of the Lloyd's insurance company recently stated. Here is the opinion of those whom people overseas so gleefully quote in justification of their actions in this part of the world. "The increase in foreign naval forces in the region," said Sayf Ibn Hashim al-Miskari, Gulf Cooperation Council deputy secretary general for political issues, "is generating a growth in tension and could ultimately drag the region into an undesirable international conflict."

The interests of peace and tranquillity in the Gulf, as the Soviet Union has repeatedly pointed out, require primarily political rather than military measures. The Soviet Union believes that the international community must concentrate its efforts on solving two interrelated tasks: ensuring real safety of navigation in the Gulf and ending the Iran-Iraq War.

As for ensuring freedom of navigation, why not send UN forces, for instance, to the Gulf to replace the foreign warships there? The USSR has proposed putting this proposal on a practical footing and, to that end, involving the UN Security Council Military Staff Committee.

The raging fire in the Gulf can only be extinguished through collective efforts by the international community, rather than by unilateral military muscle-flexing, however impressive. The faster this truth is realized in the capitals of certain Western states, the better it will be for the cause of peace in the region and worldwide.

Influence of Oil in Gulf Tension Assessed

PM200935 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by I. Yermachenkov, candidate of economic sciences: "The Persian Gulf: Oil and Politics"]

[Text] Events in the Persian Gulf are attracting increasing international attention. The Iran-Iraq war, which has taken almost 1 million human lives, is now into its 8th year; the "tanker war," in its 4th year, shows no signs of abating; and this year saw the arrival of a large fleet of warships from the United States, Britain, France, and other NATO countries: There are already more than 70 of these ships in the region.

What is the point for this show of military strength in such an explosive region? The official explanation given by the United States and its allies is that the warships have been sent to the Persian Gulf region allegedly to ensure "safety of navigation." In reality, however, they are pursuing far-reaching imperialist aims: to guarantee Western countries a supply of oil to the detriment of oil producing states in the region. The fact of the matter is that the Persian Gulf countries account for 57 percent of the non-socialist world's explored oil reserves. In Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iran, and Iraq these reserves will last for more than 70 years, whereas world reserves will be exhausted in 33 years time [sentence as published]. Judging by its present oil consumption level, the United States can only supply its needs from its own reserves for another 9 years. If new, large oil fields are not discovered in the near future—and geologists consider this unlikely—Western countries will be forced to purchase considerably more oil from states in the Persian Gulf. The amount of Persian Gulf oil imported by the United States has grown from 4 percent to 15 percent in a matter of a few years. Specialists calculate that Western countries' oil purchases in this region will increase by at least one-third by 1990 and will have doubled by the year 2000. Ministers from the 21 countries belonging to the International Energy Agency (IEA), who met in Paris in May this year, expressed their "concern regarding regular energy supplies in the foreseeable future." "The present state of the oil market," they stressed, "gives us no grounds for complacency."

The six Persian Gulf countries — Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, and Qatar — now export approximately 10 million barrels of oil per day, amounting to 41 percent of the total world oil export. Not all of this oil is delivered by tanker, of course; a considerable proportion is pumped through oil pipelines to the Red Sea and the Mediterranean. Last year 2.1 million barrels of oil were delivered in this way every day, and this fall the oil pipelines' capacity is to double. Despite this increase, more than half of the exports still have to be transported by sea through the Strait of Hormuz.

For all countries in the Persian Gulf, oil is their main export and virtually their sole source of prosperity. That is why the prospect of closing the Strait of Hormuz has caused serious alarm among the exporters themselves and the importers in Western Europe, Japan, and Australia.

Before the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq war, one-third of all oil consumed by the capitalist world passed through the Strait of Hormuz. Although the amount of oil from the Persian Gulf countries has been reduced to 20 percent since then, the region's importance has not diminished. Japan, Australia, and New Zealand now buy 55 percent of their oil in the Gulf countries, and Western Europe—28 percent. Oil from the Persian Gulf is also becoming more important to the United States.

Oil is no ordinary commodity. It has long since become a strategic raw material, without which the NATO military machine would quickly begin to grind to a halt. The total oil stocks belonging to the governments of Western countries and to oil companies amount to 3 billion barrels. These reserves will allow the West to hold out for almost 100 days if the military conflict in the Gulf region expands or if an embargo is announced.

However, despite this, U.S. business circles are still concerned that the country's regular oil supplies will be interrupted. This is explained, on the one hand, by the considerable increase in demand for imported oil and the fall in oil production in a number of American states. (In Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and California alone, thousands of oil wells have been closed down in the last 2 years). It is thought that in the period between last January through the end of this year, U.S. oil imports will increase by 2 million barrels per day. On the other hand, concern is being increased due to Washington's shortsighted policy in the Near East, which is to Israel's benefit but at variance with the interests of countries in the Near and Middle East trying to establish just, lasting peace.

Despite the Congressional ban on the sale of arms and other military equipment to Iran and Iraq, the U.S. Administration constantly maintains either overt or covert relations with the participants in the conflict in connection with secret arms supplies. What is more, as *The New York Times* has pointed out, American intelligence services "have given Iran and Iraq deliberately distorted or imprecise intelligence information in order to achieve the administration's aims in this region." In particular, the Iranians have been given false information designed to make them suspect Soviet policy.

The increased tension in the Gulf region has caused great alarm in the West in regards to oil supplies. A. Pradier, chairman of the "Shell France" board of directors, believes that the price of crude oil could soar to 30 dollars per barrel if the tension persists. "The spectre of a third oil crisis is looming on the horizon, with terrible consequences for the world economy," *Le Monde* wrote recently.

This warning primarily applies to those who are most to blame for the escalation in the tension in the Gulf and who, instead of seeking peaceful solutions to the conflict, are gambling on military strength.

Iran's UN Envoy Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

LD192328 Moscow TASS in English 2247 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] New York October 20 TASS—Iran's ambassador to the United Nations Seyyed Rajaie-Khorassani condemned the United States' "unprovoked acts of aggression" against Iran. He described them as a blatant violation of international law, of the spirit and letter of the United Nations Charter. At a press-conference held at the United Nations Headquarters on Monday he said that those actions would not remain unanswered.

Rajaie-Khorassani said that the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf represented a most serious threat to stability and security in the region. He emphasized the need for withdrawal of U.S. troops from the region.

Iran's representative said that by its actions the USA has made itself directly involved in an armed conflict. The American people is being involved, and unwisely so, in a "new Vietnam".

'Lack of Trust' Toward USSR Seen in West

PM201528 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Oct 87 Second Edition p 6

[Anatoliy Karpychev article under the rubric "Political Diary": "The Trust Factor"]

[Text] It seems that common sense is gradually beginning to crowd out the harsh stereotypes of distrust toward our country that have become stratified over the decades in Western thinking, taking the form of the threat from the Russians. It was for this reason that employees of CNN television asked the head of the White House this question:

"You met with Mr Gorbachev face to face... Would you trust him with your pocketbook?"

"A pocketbook—yes," came the reply. "But when discussing such things as arms, an agreement on weapons, I told him that I know a saying in his language—trust, but check..."

"You would trust him with your pocketbook, but you will not trust him on questions of monitoring?" the journalists further inquired. "To what extent do you trust him?"

"I don't think they trust us either..."

What could be simpler, you might think, than to trust each other. And at the same time, how complex everything is here, how confused, how encumbered by unnecessary clutter, by bias. The image of our country is distorted to the point of unrecognizability. Just try and find out what these Russians want, especially if your leaders repeat day after day that the Russians cannot be trusted, that they are sly and perfidious, that their system is the embodiment of evil, and that their "cherished dream" is to spread communism throughout the world, for the t, especially if your leaders repeat day after day that the Russians cannot be trusted, that they are sly and perfidious, that their system is the embodiment of evil, and that their "csake of which they are arming themselves. Even "Lenin himself considered no steps promoting the progress of socialism throughout the world to be immoral, not even cheating, lies, and so forth." (For the reader's information: That is Reagan's interpretation.)

It is repulsive to read rubbish, but sometimes one does. It is a good thing that it is not only "revelations" of this kind that determine the climate. When you study Western press publications, you cannot help noticing the appearance of expressions like "detente mark 2," "a time of hope," "the changes in the USSR are genuine." It is, of course, not as simple as saying that formerly they did not like us, and now they are beginning to like us. It is all more complex than that. But the fact remains—life itself is making people "trust their pocketbooks" to the Russians. After all, it is hard to conceal the truth, however hard you may try to hide it from people's eyes. Today the truth is that the Soviet Union has proposed getting rid of the sinister arsenals of nuclear and other types of weapons forever by the year 2000, and has proposed creating a comprehensive system of international security and spending the vast sums now spent on arms more rationally, on peaceful purposes, for the sake of life. "If the Soviet Union is offering to disarm, why are we delaying?" people in the West are asking. And the West today is forced to admit: Unless we abandon the stereotype—"reject everything offered by the Soviet Union"—our governments are in danger of losing the trust of their own peoples. These conclusions are not mine, they are those of the journal *Foreign Affairs*, taken from an article entitled "America's Chance."

So this is how it is: Their own public opinion is making some people in the West (and here I will have to use our Soviet word, a very good word)...restructure. In what direction—that is another question.

The New York institute for the study of security problems in East-West relations has prepared a report entitled "How America Should React to the Gorbachev Challenge." No less a person than the correspondent of the Voice of America reported that the document's main aim is to draw attention to the fact that the changes in the USSR are genuine and very important, and also the fact that the West should now elaborate a new policy toward the USSR and... make the best use for itself of the new situation that has arisen in the USSR. The new political thinking in the East requires new political thinking in the West, the document says.

Another fact is that the Joint Economic Committee of Congress discussed the significance of the economic restructuring in the USSR. "General Secretary Gorbachev's intentions regarding the restructuring are obvious. The majority of specialists believe that its results will not become clear at least until the nineties. One way or another the results will be of great significance for the United States, for our relations with the USSR, for the Western alliance, for U.S. state security, for trade, and much more," Senator Proxmire said. Dzh. Of [as transliterated], an expert in political sciences, expressed the view that Gorbachev's position is exceptionally strong, and therefore he can act boldly in the international policy sphere.

The well known American economist John Kenneth Galbraith gave a curious interview to the Italian magazine *Il Mondo*. He observed that for "many years an abnormal hatred of communism has prevailed in the United States," and the factor of fear of the Soviet Union has operated. One thing is beyound doubt, namely that neither capitalism nor communism will survive a nuclear war, the scientist noted. They are two very complex and different socioeconomic systems, but the ashes of one will be very similar to the ashes of the other. On the subject of the accord on medium-range missiles and the supposed existence of a superior Soviet presence in Europe, he noted: "Can anyone seriously believe that the USSR is eager to invade Western Europe, that the Kremlin wants to manage the West German economy, the French economy, or even the Italian economy?..."

All the same, an understanding of the need for a restructuring of views of the Soviet Union is rather the exception than the rule. Many people still seriously think everything our country offers is either a propaganda truck or a ruse which must be divined and then figured out: Do not Moscow's initiatives undermine Western security, will not the United States find itself face to face with the "enemy"? And in general, what is offered by the "Gorbachev era—danger or opportunity?" That is the way you end up thinking if you look at everything through a filter of suspicion.

The lack of trust is, in my view, a serious problem. It is not at all easy to solve it, but it must be solved, and that requires our participation too. It is a good thing if we have more international television linkups, business contacts, human contacts, personal sympathies, if we are more open with each other. Naturally, the question arises: "What is preventing it?" Judging from the editorial mail, Soviet people value trust highly and respond to it only with trust. In American families too, trust is highly valued, which makes it all the easier to make good the lack. Provided, of course, that this is not deliberately prevented by manipulation of the "factors of hatred toward communism."

UN Committee Favors U.S.-Soviet Arms Treaty

LD210836 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Text] New York October 21 TASS—The First Committee: Disarmament and Related International Security Questions of the U.N. General Assembly supported and approved Tuesday a Soviet-American agreement on the elimination of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles in its first resolution adopted at the 42nd session. The resolution pointed to this effect and of energetic efforts aimed at working out a treaty on a 50 per cent reduction of strategic offensive armaments within the framework of the Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons.

Expressing the opinion of the overwhelming majority of delegates, Klaus Terund, head of a Finnish delegation, pointed out that the Soviet-American agreement could become a turning point setting the beginning of a process towards the lessening of the role played by armaments, both nuclear and conventional ones, in maintaining peace and security. It could serve as a catalyst in achieving progress in other spheres of disarmament, he pointed out.

Petrovskiy Views Security

PM201131 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Oct 87 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Sukhoy dispatch: "Trust, Openness, Verification"]

[Text] New York, 19 Oct—The general discussion is continuing in the seven main committees of the 42d session of the UN General Assembly. The Soviet delegation set out its views on the main factors of the establishment of international security in the First Committee (political questions and questions of securityin the seven main committees of the 42d session of the UN General Assembly. The Soviet delegation set out its views on the main factors of the establish including disarmament).

The translation into reality of a universal system of security, V.F. Petrovskiy, deputy head of the USSR delegation, noted, is not possible without trust, openness, and verification. The force of example plays an important role here. The 18-month unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions, the opportunity granted to a delegation from the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress to visit the radar station near Krasnoyarsk, and the familiarization of participants in the talks on chemical weapons with the Soviet military installation in Shikhany—these are vivid examples of the USSR'S goodwill.

When the process of disarmament moves into a practical plane, the importance of verification will greatly increase. The Soviet Union therefore favors the most rigorous verification, and is ready to constructively examine any specific proposals.

The road to security and a nuclear-free world also leads through the United Nations. Without enhancing its authority and effectiveness we will not be able to turn the United Nations into a guarantor of just and nonviolent relations between all the members of the present-day community.

UNESCO General Conference Opens in Paris

LD202050 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Paris October 20 TASS—TASS correspondents Aleksey Yemelyanov and Viktor Khrekov report:

The 24th session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) opened in Paris today. The session is being attended by representatives of 158 UNESCO member states as well as of international non-governmental organizations which cooperate with it.

There are about a hundred items on the agenda of the session. The delegates will discuss and endorse UNESCO'S programme and budget for the coming two years, and will coordinate a medium-term programme for UNESCO'S activities for the 1990s.

Special attention will be given to the elaboration of measures to educate the population of various countries in the spirit of peace and cooperation.

The election of a new director-general of UNESCO for the coming six years will be held as well.

Last Sunday the executive board of UNESCO recommended that the session consider the candidacy of Federico Mayor, a prominent Spanish biochemist.

The session of UNESCO'S general conference will come to a close on November 21.

Vienna Meeting on Thermonuclear Fusion Ends

LD201725 Moscow TASS in English 2331 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Vienna October 19 TASS—The second meeting of the committee of representatives of the USSR, USA, Japan and the European Economic Community on questions of the implementation of the Soviet Union's proposal for international cooperation in the area of controlled thermo-nuclear fusion ended at the Vienna International Centre today. The participants in the meeting reached agreement to recommend to the governments to start the work connected with designing an international thermo-nuclear experimental reactor. The steering bodies have been elected and a permanent design group formed. The work is planned for three years. It will be conducted under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Garhing, the FRG.

Tarezevich Meets Trade Forum Participants

LD202046 Moscow TASS in English 2036 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—Georgiy Tarazevich, vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, today received participants in the international meeting, the world and present-day problems of trade and development. The guests heard about large-scale reforms, held as part of the current restructuring campaign in the Soviet Union. It was noted during the conversation that the USSR consistently favoured mutually advantageous and all-round cooperation between states. Note was taken of the importance of general disarmament for the successful development of the world economy and trade in the interests of all nations and world peace.

Some Western Media Barred from Conference

AU201005 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 20 Oct 87 p 2

[Burkhard Bischof report: "Will the Soviets Bar Access to the Moscow Conference?"]

[Text] Vienna—According to Soviet CSCE diplomat Yuriy Kolosov, certain Western media and non-governmental organizations may not be permitted to send representatives to the Moscow conference on humanitarian cooperation, which has been proposed by the USSR. At a panel discussion organized by the Helsinki Federation, Kolosov cited the two radio stations Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. These are considered "extremely negative" institutions by the Soviet Union because they have the goal of fighting the socialist system.

Contrary to this, Soviet CSCE delegation head Yuriy Kashlev has always stressed that all media and groups that have participated in the CSCE meetings to date will also be permitted to come to Moscow.

United States & Canada

Weinberger Cited on U.S. Action Against Iran

LD202127 Moscow TASS in English 2102 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] New York October 20 TASS—U.S. warships which delivered a strike at two Iranian oil platforms were firing at a target which was specially picked up, U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger said in an ABC network interview today.

It follows from the interview that the action was undertaken with the aim of intimidating Iran.

The Iranians must themselves draw conclusions from that lesson, he said.

The Pentagon chief made it clear that the U.S. naval task force in the Persian Gulf was ready for other similar operations. Caspar Weinberger stressed that the USA could take any military actions needed in the Persian Gulf.

'Varied' Reaction to Gulf Attack Reported

LD210140 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] As a correspondent of the AP news agency reports from Washington, a report prepared by the staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee who made a trip recently to the Near East stresses that the United States is running a serious risk of being drawn into a war in the Persian Gulf. Here is the latest news commentary by Nikolay Agayants at the microphone:

[Agayants] Reaction to the recent events in the explosive region is as broad as it is varied. It varies from the full support and approval expressed to the Reagan administation by representatives of Great Britain, France, and the FRG; through doubt and apprehension from such NATO allies as Italy, Holland, and Belgium; and to sharp criticism of the actions of the U.S. Navy in the Persian Gulf as bandit-like and terrorist, from, for instance, the leadership of the Libyan Jamahiriyah and certain other countries.

It is clear that the raid by the U.S. destroyers on Iranian oil platforms—I shall remind you that more than 1000 large full-charge shells were fired at these installations—has brought the United States to a dangerous stage beyond which open military action between the United States and Iran may follow.

Although President Reagan continues to state that these were only countermeasures, measures of retribution, and that the United States is in no way at war with Iran, this does not reassure anyone and cannot be reassuring. Judging by everything, and indeed as the *New York Post* wrote the other day, the Pentagon's secret plans for striking a blow at targets on Iranian territory are becoming a severe and tragic reality. As is apparent from reports coming in from Tehran, there they are firmly resolved to fight to the death against the treacherous enemy, which, and I quote from a statement of one of the leaders of the Islamic republic, which is condemning the unsuspecting American people to a new Vietnam.

Of course, at the moment it is difficult to predict the further development of the alarming events in the Persian Gulf. One thing is without doubt: Urgent steps are needed to ensure that the regional conflict is not allowed to flare up into a large-scale international one and the sides are not allowed to cross over from the war of words, that is, the endless mutual accusations and threats, to military action.

Robert Byrd, the leader of the Democratic majority in the U.S. Senate, has demanded that Ronald Reagan invoke the War Powers Act, which — and this is my own observation — can grant the U.S. Congress the right to demand the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the Persian Gulf region. But the President is stubbornly insisting on having his own way and considers that the big-stick policy being conducted by Washington is not only competent but also exceedingly useful for the cause of defending shipping in international waters. He is warmly supported in this by Secretary of Defense Weinberger, who does not cease to assert the need to teach a serious lesson to all those running the risk of encroaching upon the freedom of this shipping.

Meanwhile, tension continues to mount. Who knows what might happen? There may a clap of thunder signaling a storm whose consequences are simply unpredictable. Thus, before it is too late, it is essential to prevent the explosion; it is essential, as the Soviet Union has stated more than once, to withdraw the warships of all foreign states from the Persian Gulf and ensure the real safety of shipping there, and, apart from this, to secure an end to the Iran-Iraq conflict, which is bringing incalculable misery to the people of these countries and poses a serious threat to universal peace.

U.S. Gulf Policy, Naval Curb Proposals Cited

PM191459 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Oct 87 First Edition p 3

[Captain First Rank V. Kuzar "Military-Political Review": "Where Is the U.S. Armada Heading?"]

[Text] The Moroccan port of Agadir in 1911 and the Persian Gulf in 1987... For the person interested in the aggressive policy of imperialism, these geographical points, far from one another on the globe, have something in common. They are linked by widely publicized events which took place in one of them 76 years ago and what is happening at the present in the other. Capitalist countries' imperial ambitions and their desire to use naval might to achieve selfish aims were clearly manifested in both the former and the latter. Whereas the demonstration of military might by the Kaiser's Germany in Agadir subsequently gained the name of "gunboat diplomacy," since the gunboat *Panther* was swiftly deployed there, we have a right to call the actions of the United States and other Western countries in the Persian Gulf "aircraft carrier diplomacy."

Judge for yourselves. Four aircraft carriers from Western countries have been directly or indirectly brought into play in the Persian Gulf zone. Each of them is a major surface combat ship (up to 100,000 tonnes displacement) and represents quite a significant force. For instance, on board the U.S. aircraft carrier there are ground attack, fighter, and antisubmarine aircraft—a total of nearly 100 aircraft and helicopters including approximately 40 nuclear capable aircraft. It must also be stressed that the aircraft carriers operate as part of operational-tactical units — aircraft carrier strike groups and formations. The groups, as a rule, include 1 aircraft carrier and 8-10 escorts — cruisers, destroyers, and frigates.

The Pentagon has concentrated tremendous power—almost 40 ships—in the Persian Gulf, which is 1,000 miles from U.S. shores and has been arbitrarily declared by Washington to be a zone "of vital importance" for the United States.

The development of events in this region once again confirms that U.S. imperialism assigns an important role to naval forces in conducting its aggressive expansionist policy. People across the ocean do not hide the fact that if you possess a powerful navy you can feel that you are the "neighbor" of any littoral state, since the expanse of the seas provides an opportunity to send warships to the most remote regions of the planet. History illustrates that this "proximity" most often became interference in the affairs of a sovereign state, diktat and blackmail toward to it, or overt armed intervention. Let us recall the strikes carried out by U.S. aircraft, including deck-borne aircraft, on Libyan cities and other sites last March and April. Or how a U.S. armada of ships took part in reprisals against tiny Grenada and how the battleship *New Jersey* bombarded the banks of Lebanon with its 16-inch big guns. The chronicle of the U.S. Navy's bloody crimes can be continued further. Americans themselves have calculated that during the 3 post-war decades alone the Pentagon has deployed warships on 177 of the 215 occasions where U.S. military might has been used for political ends.

U.S. militarist activity in the expanses of the world's oceans is spearheaded against the Soviet Union. "Let us turn the USSR into an isolated island"; "We must have naval superiority"—such statements in the United States are not merely declarations. They are expressed today in the Pentagon's "new naval strategy." According to this, at the first sign of military conflict the U.S. Navy must "be deployed globally and immediately on the front lines" with the aim of "locking the Soviet Navy" in its bases. The main thing, as Admiral Watkins, one of the authors of the strategy, stressed, is to shoot the archer before he releases his arrows. Finally, he suggests carrying out strikes using cruise missiles and seaborne aircraft into the heart of Soviet territory. In this connection even in peacetime it is envisaged establishing control in all "vitally important" regions of the planet — in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans and the Mediterranean.

In resolving the task of "responsibility for three oceans" the Pentagon is building a 600-ship Navy, which it plans to finish by 1990. Its core will be attack-carrier, operational-missile [operativnyye raketnye], and hunter-killer ship groups. Nearly 200 ships will be equipped with 4,000 cruise missiles, of which more than 750 will be nuclear-armed.

Having adopted a course aimed at achieving superiority over the Soviet Union, the United States, together with its partners and above all its NATO allies, is endeavoring to gain maximum control over projected regions of combat operations in the seas around our country's shores. Take, for example, the polar aspect of Pentagon and NATO naval strategy. Expressing the essence of it, former Navy Secretary Lehman stated: "We must site our forces north of the Greenland-Iceland-Britain antisubmarine line and in the Norwegian and Barents Seas, not to defend our access to the Atlantic Ocean but to make the Soviet Navy defend its bases' outlets."

The Pentagon intends to deploy three to four multipurpose carrier groups in the North Atlantic and the Norwegian Sea. This means that they are planning to permanently station near the shores of the Soviet Union 120-160 nuclear capable aircraft which can carry out strikes on most of our country's European territory. Plans are also being elaborated to site sea- and air-launched cruise missiles in this region to "compensate" for the conclusion of a Soviet-U.S. agreement on the elimination of medium-range and operational-tactical missiles. This would mean an additional threat not only for the Soviet Union but also for all the countries of Northern Europe.

Or another example. According to the *U.S. News and World Report*, U.S. naval forces are preparing thoroughly to carry out combat submarine operations in extensive regions of the Arctic Ocean. With this in view, it is planned for U.S. submarines to penetrate deeply into the "hostile seas" of this region of the planet to carry out protracted autonomous operations. The appropriate combat means are already being adapted by the Pentagon for operations under the ice, arms will be improved, in particular certain types of torpedoes, new equipment is being developed for detecting and tracking Soviet ships, and intensive submarine crew training is under way.

In the wake of their senior partner other NATO countries are also displaying heightened interest in the Arctic. Not so long ago the Government of Canada elaborated an extensive program for building up its armed forces in this region. Ottawa has announced its intention to buy 10 nuclear-powered submarines to defend its so-called "sovereignty in Arctic regions." The North Atlantic bloc's activity in waters immediately around Soviet polar regions is increasing. The large-scale "Ocean Safari-87" naval maneuvers, in which 119 warships from 11 NATO countries took part, have just finished. For 2 weeks this entire armada headed by the U.S. aircraft carrier *Forrestal* rehearsed tasks in "blockading the enemy's navy in the Norwegian Sea." Such provocative wargames, which are hard to distinguish from measures of direct preparation for aggression, are becoming increasingly frequent every year.

The danger that they present to the cause of peace throughout the world is obvious, especially if you take into consideration the fact that the NATO command has elaborated a directive for the navy envisaging a first massive strike. According to the *Daily Telegraph*, this document instructs the commanders of warships and naval aviation to be the first to bring into play all firepower at their disposal "in the event of crisis situations." The directive permits such a strike "also in the event of enemy actions being considered provocative." The commanders of U.S. ships in the Persian Gulf zone, where the situation has become particularly explosive, are now guided by such directives. There is no need to particularly stress the possible results of directives giving commanders complete freedom of action in using combat weapons even in peacetime.

That is why the times dictate an insistent need to stabilize the situation on the seas and oceans, limit military activity on their waters, and at the same time boost the level of trust in relations between states. In this connection it should be noted that the Soviet Union long ago submitted a series of proposals designed to limit naval activity and naval armaments and transform the world's oceans into a zone of peace and stability.

Thus our country has proposed the limitation of the proliferation of nuclear weapons on the seas and oceans and their removal altogether from certain waters. The Soviet Union has advocated limiting the number of primary class warships, introducing restrictions on submarine forces and means, discussing measures with regard to naval bases on foreign territories, and agreeing to confidence-building measures of trust intended to help prevent conflict situations in naval activity. These and other proposals have been supplemented by other concrete initiatives relating to individual major sea and ocean regions. The Soviet proposals to reduce the activity of navies in the Pacific Ocean, primarily ships equipped with nuclear weapons, and the program to demilitarize the Indian Ocean have received extensive support from world public opinion. A little earlier the Soviet Union announced its readiness to extend the agreed upon confidence-building measures to the Mediterranean.

Now we have the "Arctic peace program"—this is what the progressive public has called the new Soviet initiative designed to transform the north of the planet into a peace zone. The USSR has advocated a radical reduction in the level of military confrontation in this region. Our country has not only supported the initiative by Finnish President M. Koivisto concerning the limitation of naval activity in the seas bordering on northern Europe but also stated its readiness to begin consultations between the Warsaw Pact and NATO to reduce military activity, limit the scale of navy and air force activity in the waters of the Baltic, North, Norwegian, and Greenland Seas, and also extend confidence-building measures to them. The USSR also proposes reviewing the question of banning naval activity in mutually agreed zones of international straits and in areas of intensive shipping altogether.

The new Soviet initiative has evoked a broad international response. I will cite only one speech, which is most characteristic in this context. Admiral G. Larocque (retired), director of the U.S. Defense Information Center, stated: "...The proposals to reduce naval activity in the regions around Europe are promising. I think that we must abandon confrontation. This will undoubtedly benefit the USSR, the United States, and the peoples of Europe and the whole world alike."

New climatic processes must take shape on the expanses of the world's oceans—processes of strengthening peace and universal security. There must be no room for the cold winds of mutual distrust and animosity and the concomitant "aircraft carrier diplomacy." The new political thinking typical of the nuclear age acknowledges the need to build relations between states only on the principles of respect for everyone's sovereignty, equality, and mutually advantageous cooperation.

U.S. 'Strategic Rearmament' Impedes Accord

PM191251 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Oct 87 First Edition p 3

[A. Golts "Observer's Diary": "Under Hypocritical Cover"]

[Text] It is well known that the incumbent U.S. Administration has not managed to implement much of what it promised Americans. For instance, contrary to numerous assurances, it has continued to fail to balance the budget, and the total national debt has exceeded $2 trillion. However, Washington is keeping its word in one sphere. I am talking about militarist programs.

Six years ago, 2 October 1981, U.S. President R. Reagan announced the beginning of "strategic rearmament." This project presupposed the development and deployment of qualitatively new systems of nuclear missile weapons and carrier vehicles: intercontinental ballistic missiles, strategic bombers, missile-armed nuclear-powered submarines, and long-range cruise missiles. From that moment the Pentagon and the military-industrial complex—without sparing any efforts, it can be said—have fulfilled this program of building up first-strike means.

Late last year the first of 50 MX missiles were placed in alert status. It is proposed to install another 50 of these missiles on special railroad flatcars in order to increase their mobility. In addition to the MX another mobile intercontinental missile—Midgetman—is rapidly being created. Approximately 10 Trident submarines are already on combat patrol in the world's oceans. Strategic Air Command is receiving the first consignment of B-1B bombers.

Six years ago the "rearmament" program was undertaken in an atmosphere of particular militarist fervor. People who had only just taken up high posts within the administration were convinced that it was sufficient to spend a trillion or so dollars on new missiles and aircraft and well and truly threaten the Soviet Union for the whole planet to treat with respect every word uttered in the White House. So they began making threats straightaway. That same October 1981 the U.S. President stated to journalists that "limited nuclear war is possible." At that same time Pentagon "situation committees" were also playing through scenarios for a "protracted" nuclear war, the aim of which was to "win a brilliant victory" over the Soviet Union.

Now times are different. People in the U.S. capital are at least not talking so loudly about being able to wage and win a nuclear war. Nevertheless they are still continuing to implement this sinister program targeted at creating the means for nuclear aggression. True, they are keeping silent about their wish to "win a brilliant victory." They are emphasizing the "consolidation" of U.S. "security."

But what sort of security can they have in mind if, as a result of the implementation of this program, the number of nuclear munitions has grown, according to foreign press data, to 26,000. Each new warhead increases the threat of nuclear catastrophe. Furthermore, this program—in its way the concentrated expression of the gamble on military superiority—has become one of the main obstacles in the path of disarmament. It is to this Moloch that Washington has hastened to sacrifice the Soviet-U.S. SALT II Treaty, which was impeding the uncontrolled buildup of strategic armaments.

All their arguments concerning their desire to "ensure security" by increasing the potential of strategic offensive armaments seem particularly hypocritical if one takes into consideration the fact that the implementation of the "Star Wars" program is under way simultaneously. So the nuclear missile sword is being forged at the same time as the space shield behind which those who are contemplating aggression hope to take cover.

Today, when an accord in principle has been reached between the USSR and the United States on the elimination straight off of two types of nuclear weapons—medium-range and operational-tactical missiles—there is hope that the future agreement will open the way to the reduction of strategic offensive armaments also. Yet the continuing implementation of the "strategic rearmament" program essentially leads to the nuclear abyss. Sooner or later Washington will have to correct its course.

Further Reportage on Shultz Mideast Visit

Israel Trip Noted

LD191447 Moscow TASS in English 1113 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Amman October 19 TASS—The visit by Secretary of State George Shultz to Israel to discuss prospects of the Middle East settlement with Israeli leaders has ended practically without any results.

Asked by journalists about the outcome of his talks in Jerusalem, Shultz admitted that nothing worth mentioning had been achieved.

According to reports from Tel Aviv, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir again flatly rejected the idea of convening an international conference on the Middle East. He did not agree even with the American concept of such a conference the essence of which was to turn the representative international forum into a screen for separate deals patterned on Camp David.

Shultz' visit was being held against the background of powerful anti-American protests which had spread to occupied Arab territories. Speakers at rallies and demonstrations strongly denounced the openly pro-Israeli policy of the American Administration which was actually encouraging aggression and expansion of the Zionists.

They criticized Washington's attempts to impose "settlement" deals that infringed upon Arab interests and benefited Israel. In response to a call from Palestinian public organizations, the population of the Jordan West Bank and Gaza Strip held a general strike in protest against the U.S.-Israeli plot directed at "legitimatizing" and perpetuating the Zionist occupiation of the Arab lands.

Indicatively, all prominent Palestinian figures of the West Bank and Gaza boycotted meetings with Shultz. Even the Palestinians described as "moderate" in Tel Aviv and Washington refused to talk with U.S. representative.

Commenting on their decision, former Hebron mayor Mustafah al-Natsha said that one coud have hardly expected positive results from the meeting with the representative of the administration whose policy was becoming ever more hostile towards the Palestinians.

After completing the visit to Israel, the U.S. secretary of state arrived in Cairo today.

Success of Visit Doubted

LD191633 Moscow TASS in English 1458 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 19 TASS—TASS political news analyst Boris Shabayev writes:

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has ended another visit to Israel in the conspicuous absence of any drumbeating in press comments on the results of his trip.

He left Tel Aviv empty-handed, if one disregards the diploma of an honorary doctor of philosophy that had been presented to him to sound of applause.

But it is, of course, not for the sake of the diploma that Shultz had shuttled across Israel, holding separate talks with its squabbling leaders, for three days.

Washington says that state secretary's mission was to look for ways of achieving a peace settlement in the Middle East. In this respect, ABC television reported, Shultz conceded he couldn't claim any progress.

Where was the chief U.S. diplomat looking in his search? It follows from press reports and his own remarks that his task was to set up so-called direct Arab-Israeli talks. Translated from the diplomatic language into plain words, this means separate talks patterned on the Camp David negotiations.

Could success be expected along this path which has been flatly rejected by the Arabs? Certainly, not.

The state secretary's plans included meeting with "representatives" of Palestinians living on Israeli-occupied territories. Those plans showed long standing, obstinate striving by Washington and its Israeli ally to bar the PLO from the process of forging a peace settlement, by replacing true representatives of the Arab people of Palestine with puppets ready to dance to strangers' tunes.

The state secretary suffered a fiasco in those efforts as well: No Palestinians were willing to play so shameful a role. Moreover, Shultz' visit to Israel was marked by stormy Palestinian protests which, the ABC said, had demonstrated the Arabs' conviction that the blame for their oppression was lying with the United States as well.

That this view is justified was confirmed by the state secretary himself when he told a news conference that America would continue showing concern for the security of Israel which, he said, would remain so strong as to discourage anybody in his senses from even thinking of a military solution.

This means that the United States will keep boosting the military power of Israel, the only Middle Eastern state to openly lay claims to others' lands and to have repeatedly staged aggressions to realize its territorial ambitions.

"The chief U.S. diplomat cannot suggest anything new for bringing peace nearer in the region," the French newspaper *Le Matin* sums it all up. This is why, it says, he left "with empty bags".

'Brief' Stop in Cairo

LD191330 Moscow TASS in English 1148 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo October 19 TASS—U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Cairo for a brief visit today. MENA news agency reported that he had begun talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'abd Al-Majid and other senior officials.

The head of the American diplomatic service is also to meet today with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

During the discussions, MENA noted, the sides would consider questions related to the Middle East settlement, the situation in the Persian Gulf and other international problems and bilateral relations between the U.S. and Egypt.

Shultz' visit to Egypt is being held within the framework of his Middle East tour which included Israel and Saudi Arabia. Local observers believe that the chief objectives of his trip are to justify Washington's militarist actions in the Persian Gulf and compel Middle East nations friendly to the U.S. to support the American-Israeli formula of holding an international conference on settlement in the region.

According to reports reaching here, the White House proposals which ignored the interests of most Arab, chiefly Palestinian, peoples were resolutely rejected. Even so-called moderate Palestinians by whom Washington and Tel Aviv intended to replace the Palestine Liberation Organization at the peace conference refused to meet Shultz and called on their compatriots to boycott his visit.

Reportage on Human Rights Telebridge

Zagladin Remarks Cited

LD151044 Moscow TASS in English 1018 GMT 15 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—A discussion which took place today during the TV linkup "USSR Supreme Soviet-U.S. Congress" which was seen simultaneously by Soviet and U.S. televiewers, showed various concepts of human rights in the two countries.

"Many human rights are interpreted in different ways in the USSR and the USA," Vadim Zagladin, a deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, said during the discussion. For instance, all citizens in both countries enjoy the right to vote. But in the USA a man who wants to be elected, should spend for this many hundred thousand or million dollars, which puts U.S. citizens into an unequal position. When deputies are elected in the USSR, society shoulders expenses, that is the right in both countries sounds similar, but is interpreted and operates in different ways. As for the right to work, though it is recognized in the USA, this does not mean at all that any able-bodied man can get a job: Society does not grant him such a guarantee. The USSR has such a guarantee.

Replying to Senator Daniel Moynihan, the Soviet parliamentarian said: "This is true that many dozen and even hundred thousands of poor, homeless and hunger-stricken people were leaving tsarist Russia. Now there are no such people in the USSR. All citizens have the right and opportunity to work and to draw adequate wages. Thanks to this, we have done more in the 70 years of Soviet power in the sphere of people's well-being than any other country for the same period. This is a historic fact."

Vadim Zagladin further reminded Daniel Moynihan of a phrase from a video tape prepared by the U.S. side and shown at the start of the programme that Americans are a nation of immigrants. This largely explains the U.S. attitude to the issue of emigration. "You cannot call the USSR a nation of immigrants," said Zagladin. True, there were two big waves of emigration from the country: after the 1917 Great October Socialist Revolution and after the Second World War. However, in one case they were people who fought against the revolution arms in hand, and in the other, those who backed the Nazis. Therefore, many Soviet people have naturally developed a negative attitude to emigrants. But the situation in this field is changing.

Now much has been done under the reorganization to simplify the procedure of entry to the USSR and exit from the country. There is only one obstacle to the exit as a rule: protection of state secrets. Incidentally, this problem exists in other countries, including the USA. Vadim Zagladin said that in the nine months of this year 19,393 people were given permission to leave or nearly four times more than last year. Now organs of the USSR Ministry of Home Affairs have under consideration 7,499 applications of people of various nationalities, including Jews. All of them are being processed and, naturally, all who have such a possibility, can leave. But not all avail themselves of this opportunity. For instance, in the nine months of this year 274 people did not wish to leave the USSR, though they had the right to do so.

Highlights Reported

LD151123 Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 15 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—Yuriy Zhukov, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has described an accident with the U.S. citizen Brian Willson on September 1 as an intentional crime. Brian Willson, participant in a demonstration against Washington's policy in Central America, was crippled by a train outside the gate of the Concord Naval Base in California.

This subject was brought up today during a television hook-up devoted to human rights problems in which Soviet and American parliamentarians took part. Zhukov did not agree with the opinion of Congressman Steny Hoyer that the crippling of Willson was a tragic accident. He recalled that the U.S. authorities had been notified beforehand of the demonstration planned to be held outside the base. And still, the locomotive driver did not even pull up when he saw a man on the rails. Zhukov expressed perplexity over the fact that U.S. Congress had not given so far a proper assessment of the accident.

American participants in the TV hook-up tried to turn the discussion to the problem of the observance of human rights in the Soviet Union, as though there were no problems of this kind in the United States, as though it is not facing such acute problems as unemployment, homelessness of millions of people and the discrimination against the non-white population. Vadim Zagladin, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, said that the present dialogue was evidence of the existence of traces of the "cold war" in Soviet-American relations. Much remains to be done by both sides for creating an atmosphere of mutual trust.

A representative of Lithuania in Soviet Parliament pointed out the absence of truthful information in the U.S. about the state of things in the Soviet Union. In response to a statement made by Senator Daniel Moynihan to the effect that the church is allegedly banned in the USSR he said that 650 Catholic churches were functioning in his republic, that there were some 700 priests, that there was a theological seminary in Kaunas.

Ivan Laptev, chief editor of *Izvestiya*, as well as other Soviet deputies, pointed out that Soviet legislation dealing with the protection of human rights had a number of defects inherited from a period of stagnation. The present reorganization of some legal standards is aimed at removing them. Specifically, two paragraphs of the penal code dealing with the punishment for anti-Soviet propaganda, as well as for the spreading of false information about the USSR and the slandering of this country are being revised today. At the same time Soviet deputies pointed out that U.S. legislation was also in need of reorganization. Suffice it to recall a law under which U.S. authorities do not permit Soviet trade union delegations to visit the U.S. at the invitation of their American colleagues.

Concluding the discussion, Vadim Zagladin proposed to American congressmen on behalf of Soviet deputies a concrete program of cooperation in the sphere of human rights providing for the exchange of information, regular meetings and consultations and participation in international conferences. He said that our cooperation should go on in the spirit of the Helsinki agreements.

U.S. Side Faulted

LD171443 Moscow TASS in English 2315 GMT 16 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 16 TASS—The fact that on Thursday there was the second TV link between parliamentarians of the Soviet Union and the United States is undoubtedly gratifying and positive, the newspaper *Izvestiya* writes today. Millions of TV viewers in both countries saw Soviet participants in the discussion openly saying about things which had been a taboo in public in the not remote past, directly mentioning phenomena unpleasant to us and touching upon topics which were considered forbidden not so long ago. But unfortunately they also saw and felt something different—the lack of understanding which frequently appeared in the course of the transmission sometimes grew into "a dialogue of the deaf".

To our TV viewers a TV link between the USSR and the USA is always a significant event. We await from such TV meetings a serious, businesslike—may it be keen and emotional, but for sure a serious conversation on problems which are really uppermost in our minds now. And it is a pity when one sees attempts to switch over the discussion to the level of a communal flat squabble.

The TV link demonstrated, apart from other things, that legislators from the Capitol Hill have a lack of knowledge about the USSR, Soviet realities, life in our country. Most of the TV viewers, particularly American hinterland residents, who viewed the TV transmission, for sure know even less about the Soviet Union. And if the TV meeting helps though some of them to cast off the previous stereotypes and to have a fresh look at problems dividing our two countries, then the TV link will be up to its objective, the newspaper stresses.

Supreme Court Cited on Entry Visas Decision

LD202330 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1116 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Washington, 20 Oct (TASS)—TASS correspondent Igor Borisenko reports:

The U.S. Administration cannot refuse to give U.S. entry visas to foreigners purely on the grounds that, from its point of view, these foreigners are "linked with communist groups." This was the decision delivered on Monday by the U.S. Supreme Court, seen by many observers as virtual recognition of the illegality of the discriminatory visa practice which has remained since the McCarthy era in relation to foreigners whose political views are not to the liking of U.S. ruling circles. [passage omitted]

Will this decision by the Supreme Court put an end to this disgraceful discriminatory practice? Of course not. It merely leaves in force a decision adopted in March 1986 by the Court of Appeals according to which the State Department, if it wants to prevent people from entering the United States purely because of their political views, must assure Congress that their arrival is a threat to national security.

However, the Washington authorities use this whimsical pretext widely to prohibit the entry into the country of "undesirables." So, in April of this year, the U.S. State Department refused to grant entry visas to two Soviet journalists from the *Novosti Press Agency*—V. Simonov and B. Korolev. C. Redman, a representative of the State Department, claimed that the Soviet journalists, who were invited to the United States by U.S. social organizations, allegedly would "threaten the internal security."

U.S. Defector Asks To Leave USSR for GDR

AU201213 Paris AFP in English 1209 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Anne Penketh report]

[Text] Moscow, Oct 20 (AFP)—Former U.S. serviceman Wade Roberts, who deserted from the Army in West Germany last April and fled to Soviet Central Asia with his pregnant girlfriend, has applied for residency in East Germany, he told AFP Tuesday.

Contacted by telephone, Mr. Roberts said he had told U.S. authorities he was prepared to face trial in the United States, but on condition that he was represented by a civilian lawyer and guaranteed a fair hearing.

Mr. Roberts, 22, who was granted political asylum by Soviet authorities amid much media publicity, had been working at a venomous snake laboratory in the southern republic of Turkmenistan.

Soviet authorities decided on Turkmenistan as they said it had a similar climate to his native California, and because he had expressed an interest in working with exotic animals, he said.

But the couple were unable to make the cultural adjustment to Soviet life with its Turkmenian variations. They were stricken with dysentery, spent most of their earnings on "hunting" for food, and could not obtain materials to repair the apartment they were allocated.

"They ate very strange food, played strange music on all the radio stations, and the men don't wear shorts or take off their shirt even when the temperature is above 110 degrees Fahrenheit (43 Celsius)," he said.

Asked how his Russian was after five months of living in the Turkmenian capital of Ashkhabad, he replied: "I know how to go shopping, and I know how to cuss," adding that the two went hand in hand, owing to food shortages.

Mr. Roberts said he and his West German girlfriend Petra Neumann, who is due to give birth at the end of this month, had opted for East Germany because she has relatives there.

They plan to remain in Moscow, where they arrived on September 6, pending a reply from East German authorities.

He said he had deserted because the U.S. Army in Giesen, where he was serving at a military base, had taken away his belongings, "told me to get rid of Petra" and warned him that he faced court-martial "without any explanation."

He was trying to find out the charges that had been laid against him in West Germany.

There had been "no problem" with Soviet authorities after the pair announced that they wanted to leave, he said. But he added that a TASS news agency report, which had announced their marriage last April, was "baloney."

TASS has not announced the couple's intention to leave the Soviet Union.

China

CPC Plenum Endorses Congress Documents

LD202040 Moscow TASS in English 1240 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Beijing October 20 TASS—TASS correspondents Grigoriy Arslanov and Vyacheslav Tomilin report:

The seventh plenary meeting of the 12th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) was held here today. The plenum discussed and approved a report of the CPC Central Committee, which will be delivered at the 13th congress of the party by Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. A draft new edition of some provisions of the CPC rules was endorsed as well. It was decided to submit both documents to the forthcoming congress for consideration.

The XINHUA news agency reports that the plenary meeting discussed and approved in principle the general ideas of a reform of political structure, and decided to include the basic provisions of the document in the CPC Central Committee's report to the congress.

The plenum endorsed the decision of the enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee of January 16, this year, to relieve Hu Yaobang of the duties of the general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, and the decision to elect Zhao Ziyang to be the party's acting general secretary.

By a decision of the plenary meeting, the 13th Congress of the CPC will be convened in Beijing on October 25, this year.

Border Trade Shows Good-neighborliness

PM201529 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Oct 87 Second Edition p 6

[Own correspondent T. Yesilbayev report: "At Khorgos Checkpoint: Report From Soviet-Chinese Border"]

[Text] Kazakh SSR—Khorgos checkpoint on the Soviet-Chinese border is known to many. Border trade between Kazakhstan and China's Xinjiang-Uigur Autonomous Region is carried out here. Although reciprocal trade is still on a modest scale, something else is important in this respect: Border trade helps to broaden all-round ties between the USSR and the PRC and strengthen good-neighborliness and cooperation.

V. Shevtsov, driver of a Maz truck, crosses the Soviet-Chinese border six times a month. And so it was that early one morning, while we were visiting the Khorgos checkpoint, his vehicle was ready to set off into the neighboring country.

He had some rolled steel on board. While the border guards and local customs officials were busy with the usual procedure of filling out documents, I talked with the driver.

"Our run is out of the ordinary," Viktor Ivanovich told me. "After all, for Chinese people we represent a country with which there have been virtually no ties for a long time. So we not only try to deliver the load on time but also attempt to find out a little more about our great neighbor. The PRC shows the same kind of interest, incidentally. They treat us kindly and ask more and more questions—in Russian actually—about our affairs, restructuring, and so forth...."

The first trucks passed through Khorgos in November 1983, when trade between the two states was resumed. Since then V. Shevtsov and his comrades have transported a considerable amount of freight into the PRC—refrigerators, washing machines, vacuum cleaners, construction materials, fertilizers, machine tools, and agricultural equipment. In its turn, China has supplied us with knitwear, sewn goods, fur products, vacuum flasks, and agricultural produce.

"Border trade promises well," K. Dzhakupbayev, deputy chief of the Kazakh SSR Gosplan Foreign Relations Department, said. "It contributes to enriching the variety of goods sold in the two countries' border regions. A Soviet commercial exhibition is opening in the Chinese city of Urumqi this October. It will show about 200 types of goods produced by Kazakh enterprises."

The restoration of the spirit of good-neighborliness in relations between our socialist states helps to develop trade and tourism. A considerable number of people have begun to cross the border on private business. There are families in the border republics with relatives in the Xinjiang-Uigur Autonomous Region. Makhmud Iminov, for example, whom I met in Khorgos, works at a plant in Frunze. He took some leave and he and his wife Bibikhazhar decided to go visit their relatives living in Urumqi. This was their first time in many years. The same day 84-year-old Sakhipzhamal Otegenova set off from China to see her son in Tashkent....

"An average of 30 people now pass through our checkpoint from both sides of the border every day," V.S. Yeslikov, chief of the Khorgos Customs Office, told me. "Is this very many or not? I will give you a figure to compare: In the whole of 1981 only 20 people passed through. Contacts between the two countries' citizens have greatly increased. The workload of the customs service, which works in close collaboration with the border guards, has likewise increased. After all, as well as private citizens and freight passing through Khorgos, the stream of foreign tourists is also growing every year."

Khorgos has recently become the focus of attention for Chinese journalists as well as Soviet ones. Here is what XINHUA has reported, for example: "Khorgos has come to life again, resuming its role as a busy transit station after the reopening of the old checkpoint on the border with the Soviet Union." Allow me to point out that in this particular case we are not talking about our Khorgos but about a village with the same name in Chinese territory.

They are divided by a few kilometers. But today, perhaps, the inhabitants of these two border villages are united by a desire common to the Soviet and Chinese peoples—the desire to live in peace and good-neighborliness.

Northeast Asia

Takeshita Confirmed as Japan's Next Premier

LD200955 Moscow TASS in English 0945 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Tokyo October 20 TASS—Today Noboru Takeshita, general secretary of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), was confirmed without voting as successor to the now chairman of the party and Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone. This decision has been officially taken by the LDP Electoral Commission.

Prime Minister Nakasone (whose powers expire at the end of this month) put forward the candidacy of Takeshita, 63, last night following heated back-stage talks.

On October 31 an LDP Congress will officially endorse the candidacy of its new chairman. Following that Takeshita will be elected the prime minister of Japan by votes cast by LDP deputies (who have an absolute majority in both houses of the country's top legislative body) at a special session of parliament on November 6.

DPRK Urges Restructuring of Soviet Trade

PM210831 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] Restructuring the whole range of trade, economic, scientific, and technical ties between the USSR and the DPRK to speed up the two countries' socioeconomic development and further increase the Soviet and Korean peoples' prosperity is the main task facing the Soviet-Korean Intergovernmental Consultative Commission on Economic, Scientific, and Technical Questions. This was stressed by Chong Song-nam, DPRK minister of External Economic Affairs, speaking at a meeting in Pyongyang to mark the 20th anniversary of the signing of the agreement setting up this important instrument of USSR-DPRK collaboration.

Mongolian Premier Receives Customs Chief

PM210957 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 6

[TASS report under the "Official Reports" rubric]

[Text] Dumaagiyn Sodnom, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers, received V.N. Bazovskiy, chief of the USSR Council of Ministers State Customs Control Main Administration, who is in Ulaanbaatar. He headed a Soviet delegation to the 28th conference of the leaders of socialist countries' customs administrations, which has just ended here. The sides agreed to develop a simplified customs inspection procedure envisaging organizing unilateral examination and boosting the standard of customs registration with the aim of developing and strengthening direct production, scientific, and technical links between the two countries' enterprises and organizations.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

UN Resolution on Cambodia Labeled 'Unfair'

LD191820 Moscow TASS in English 1317 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 19 TASS—A TASS diplomatic correspondent writes:

The resolution on Kampuchea which was passed at the current session of the U.N. General Assembly, is, Soviet diplomatic circles believe, unobjective and unfair towards the sovereign Kampuchean people, the genuine masters of their country. It ignores the real situation both in Kampuchea and around it. The General Assembly's resolution which was adopted under the pressure of the forces interested in continued confrontation in Southeast Asia, looks a particular anachronism now that the leadership of the People's Republic of Kampuchea put forward a concrete programme of actions to attain national concord and political settlement of the Kampuchean problem.

The policy of national reconciliation, which is consistently carried out by the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, is bound to play the decisive role in ironing out the conflict situation around Kampuchea, to considerably improve the situation in Southeast Asia. This is not a tactical move but a manifestation of goodwill, sincere striving for peace and stability. This is the policy of bright prospects.

The leadership of the People's Republic of Kampuchea has announced the readiness for a constructive dialogue with all opposing groups, but Pol Pot and his entourage, agreed to general elections in the presence of foreign observers, formation of a coalition government and holding of an international conference which would guarantee implementation of the accords reached. The procedure for the pull out of the Vietnamese volunteers has been set. Is it not a direct way to unblocking the Kampuchean problem?

It would seem that in these conditions it is the duty of the world community to actively promote settlement around Kampuchea on the basis of national reconciliation, in the interests of peace and stability. But the resolution on Kampuchea is leading it in an opposite direction.

Cambodia's Heng Samrin TV Interview Cited

BK200236 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1330 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Cambodian leader Comrade Heng Samrin said by proclaiming a national reconciliation policy, the Cambodian Government has shown goodwill and a sense of responsibility for the country's destiny.

In an interview with a Soviet television correspondent, Comrade Heng Samrin stressed the goal of the government in taking part in a meeting with other Cambodian sides to discuss a political solution to the Cambodian problem. The idea for this meeting, proposed by seven former Cambodian personalities, like the statement by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk who has agreed to take part in this meeting, shows that people agree with an attitude which is in conformity with the principle of national reconciliation.

Rogachev Cited on USSR-PRC Relations

BK200311 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1330 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Comrade Igor Rogachev, deputy foreign minister and special representative of the Soviet Government, highly values the Soviet-Chinese political consultation.

In an interview with Soviet television, the comrade said the latest round of talks in Beijing has shown the similarity of the two countries' views on many issues. Comrade Igor Rogachev also pointed out, however, that there are differences, as on the Cambodian issue, for example. However, the two sides agreed that the Cambodian problem should be resolved politically. Comrade Igor Rogachev also stressed that the talks reflect the desire of people in the two countries to coexist as good neighbors. There is still a lot to do in this direction, but there is optimism in the future of Soviet-Chinese relations.

IZVESTIYA Reports Voronin's SRV Visit

PM201149 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the "Official Reports" rubric]

[Text] From 10 through 15 October L.A. Voronin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gossnab, visited the SRV. In the course of the visit questions of developing cooperation between the USSR and the SRV in the sphere of improving material and technical supply, making rational use of material resources, and developing storage facilities were discussed. A cooperation program has been agreed on for the years 1988-1990 and for the period through the year 2000.

L.A. Voronin was received by Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam. The conversation took place in a warm friendly atmosphere.

World Peace Council Meets in New Zealand

LD191638 Moscow TASS in English 1303 GMT 19 Oct 87

[7text] Canberra October 19 TASS—James Anderton, chairman of New Zealand's parliamentary foreign affairs and defense committee, has greeted the World Peace Council's bureau in session in Auckland on behalf of the government of his country.

He said it was not often that New Zealand had a possibility to host so prominent foreign representatives. It is the first time that the World Peace Council's steering body is meeting there.

The session is focussing on cooperation among peace forces to strengthen peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region.

Many speakers said that New Zealanders' persistent campaign of many years for peace and against nuclear weapons, which had won the official backing of their government and parliament that had banned U.S. ships with nuclear arms from the country's ports and territorial waters, was an inspiring example for peace forces not only in this region but elsewhere in the world.

The session is being attended by representatives of anti-war and anti-nuclear organizations and groups in New Zealand and of the public in other Pacific insular states. It is with great difficulty that representatives of Fijian democratic forces have been able to leave their country after a military coup which they branded as a C.I.A. plot reflecting military forces' reaction to the anti-war stand taken by Fiji's democratically-elected government.

The session is to discuss the new situation connected with the possible signing of a Soviet-U.S. agreement to scrap intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles. It will also consider proposals for the council's program of actions for 1988.

Australians Continue U.S. Base Protest

LD191639 Moscow TASS in English 1157 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Canberra October 19 TASS—Peace demonstrations continued near the U.S. military base Pine Gap today, as well as yesterday. Its participants included representatives of 120 trade unions, the peace movement, church organizations and pensioners who demanded a closure of the base. Police accusing protesters of violating of private property lines made several arrests. Among those detained is Jo Vallentine, an activist of the peace movement and independent senator of the country's federal parliament from Western Australia State. She tried to hand over the so-called eviction notice to the U.S. command of the base. It points out, inter alia, that the Pine Gap base is used in the interests of the destabilizing and militant foreign policy of the USA, which leads to further escalation of the nuclear arms race.

The Australian-U.S. Treaty on leasing the territory where the base is located, expired yesterday. If Canberra had not wanted to extend it, it should have presented an appropriate notification to the American side. In a year's time the base would stop operating. However, this was not done and, consequently, the treaty was prolongated automatically.

Today Senator Janine Haines, the leader of the Australian Democrats Party, called on Australians to step up the peace campaign. She admitted that the campaign for closing the Pine Gap base ended in a failure at this stage. In her opinion, the focus of the struggle should be now shifted to other American bases in Australia—in Nurrangar and North West Cape. Their lease treaties will also expire in the near future.

Near East & South Asia

Further Reportage on Persian Gulf Situation

UN Naval Force Required

LD211354 Moscow TASS in English 1344 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—By TASS diplomatic correspondent:

They in Washington were in a hurry to describe the U.S. naval attack in the Persian Gulf against Iran's peaceful oil facilities as a "highly restrained and proportionate" retaliatory operation by the United States in response to the missile attack against a Kuwaiti tanker flying the U.S. flag. President Ronald Reagan has gone even farther by describing the action of the U.S. Navy as legitimate right to self-defense.

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has refuted the statement by his President by admitting that the aim of the action in the Persian Gulf was to teach Iran a lesson. True, he believes that after the exchange of strikes between the USA and Iran in the Persian Gulf the incident has been settled. They in Tehran are yet of a different view. An announcement has already been made on preparedness for "Islamic retribution", which will, undoubtedly lead to a further escalation of tensions in the region. The danger of a growth of the military conflagration and its going outside the regional framework is obvious.

Certainly merchant ships need protection in the conditions of a tense military situation in the Gulf. The Soviet Union was the first to have responded to the request from the Kuwaiti leaders for assistance in oil exports. The Soviet Union also rejects and considers unacceptable attacks against merchant ships belonging to other countries, whoever may launch these attacks, both from the viewpoint of international law and politics and morals.

It is believed in Moscow's diplomatic circles that the process of normalizing the situation in the Persian Gulf zone, where the interests of many states are interwoven cannot be monopolized by any one country or group of countries. The security of shipping in the Gulf can and must be ensured by the whole world community. Speaking about the closest real steps capable of positively changing the situation, the best way would be the creation of a U.N. naval force. It, if need be, could include also ships of the USA and the USSR. The implementation of such a measure under the U.N. flag would be an effective factor for improving the situation on the international sea lanes and would also contribute towards putting to action the mechanism of political settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Iran Condemns U.S. Attack

LD211307 Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Text] Nicosia October 21 TASS—Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi described the U.S. attack against Iranian oil platforms in the Persian Gulf as a direct violation of his country's national sovereignty and of the norms of international law, as an action aimed at aggravating tensions in that area. The U.S. naval buildup in the Persian Gulf is of a provocative character and Washington's main attack is spearheaded against our country which opposes imperialism and Zionism. The Iranian government, M.H. Musavi said, supports the Soviet initiatives aimed ensuring the freedom of navigation in the Gulf and lessening tensions in the region, and demands immediate withdrawal of all the naval ships of non-coastal states from the Gulf waters.

Iranian Parliament Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the USA explains its presence in the region by the need for ensuring peace, security and freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf. Yet we see, he said, that they daily launch acts of violence, thus undermining peace and security in the region.

Khamene'i Threatens 'Revenge'

PM211135 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Iran's Reaction"]

[Text] Nicosia—Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i has called the U.S. attack on Iranian oil platforms a "big mistake" and said that Iran will "have its revenge on the United States."

IRNA reported that he stated in particular: "We will not leave this U.S. action unanswered and will carry out a return strike without fail."

The U.S. attack on the Iranian oil installations, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stated, threatens our sovereignty and we will provide a fitting reply to this treacherous attack.

A similar statement was issued by Kamal Kharazi, the official Iranian military spokesman and leader of the Supreme Defense Council Military Information Department.

Soviet-Iranian Oil Cooperation Viewed

NC151525 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 14 Oct 87

[Unattributed commentary from "the World Today" feature]

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran's petroleum minister, Mr Aqazadeh, is to visit the Soviet Union soon at the head of an Iranian delegation. We requested Vladimir Ivanenko, official in charge of the Soviet-Iranian joint economic comission, to speak on the subject of bilateral cooperation with respect to oil. He said: Economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Islamic Republic of Iran has always been based upon the principle of reciprocal advantages. The Soviet Union assesses the aspirations and needs of its southern neighbor and respects them. The Soviet Union is always ready to assist Iran in extracting its mineral resources, including oil. Approximately 15 to 20 years ago, the Iranian side had broached the subject of cooperating with the Soviet Union in the field of oil prospecting in the southern regions of the Caspian Sea and in Iran's northern areas. In this connection and as a result of the necessary technical assistance provided to Iran by a special vessel of the Soviet Union, some oil deposits were discovered in the Caspian seabed.

In the beginning of the seventies, Soviet and Iranian organizations initiated talks to facilitate cooperation in the field of oil prospecting in Iran's northern regions. Consequently, teams of Soviet experts visited Iran and acquainted themselves with the location and geological composition of the oil rich strata. However, for certain reasons, the issue was not resolved at that time. It was only last year, when Iranian firms requested the collaboration of the Soviet Union in oil prospecting and extraction in the southern regions of the Caspian Sea, that Iranian and Soviet firms embarked upon special talks on the issue. Some (?companies) reported some time ago that cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Islamic Republic of Iran (?has begun) with the drilling of some oil wells in the southern regions of the Caspian Sea [words indistinct]. Soviet oil drilling platforms were to be (?installed] in order to search for oil [words indistinct]. This marks a very important phase in the two countries' mutual economic relations. Soviet firms are hopeful that such an agreement will greatly assist our (?southern neighbor) in the long run.

The official in charge of the Soviet-Iranian joint economic cooperation commission, Vladimir Ivanenko, has stated in conclusion: We are optimistic that the outcome of the visit of the Islamic Republic of Iran's petroleum minister, Mr Aqazadeh, to the Soviet Union, will be a broadening of economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iran on the basis of mutual benefit and respect.

Changes in PDPA Leadership, Organization

LD172046 Moscow TASS in English 2018 GMT 17 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul October 17 TASS—A scheduled plenary meeting of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee has been held in the Afghan capital today. It examined the question of the forthcoming nation-wide party conference of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. General Secretary of the Party Central Committee Najibullah delivered a report on the agenda and the documents proposed for examination by the conference. The agenda and documents have been unanimously approved by the plenary meeting, the *Bakhtar* agency said.

The plenum has also examined organizational issues. Secretaries of the Central Committee, alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central committee N. Kawiani and N.M. Muhmand, as well as secretary of the Party Central Committee H. Mas'ud have been elected members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee. Member of the Party Central Committee, chief of the General Staff of the DRA Armed Forces Shah Nawaz Tanai has been elected alternate member of the Political Bureau.

The plenary meeting has decided to relieve M. Barialay from the duties of Alternate Member of the Political Bureau and member of the Central Committee. Some changes have also been made in the composition of the Party Central Committee.

Najibullah PDPA Conference Speech 18 Oct

PM191429 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Oct 87 First Edition p 5

[PRAVDA and TASS correspondents V. Okulov and G. Baykov report: "PDPA General Party Conference: Najibullah's Report"]

[Text] Kabul, 18 Oct—The PDPA General Party Conference opened here today. The 677 delegates include emissaries from the party organizations of all the country's provinces—workers, peasants, servicemen, students, and scientific and cultural figures. They are to examine a number of most important questions in the life of the party and the state. Discussion of the party's tasks to accelerate the process of national reconciliation, certain changes in the PDPA action program, measures to strengthen party ranks, and problems of economic development in conditions of national reconciliation are on the conference agenda. The progress of nationwide discussion of the draft constitution, certain changes in the PDPA rules, and a number of other questions will be analyzed. Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, delivered a report "On the Party's Tasks To Accelerate the Process of National Reconciliation and Certain Changes in the PDPA Action Program."

The PDPA action program, he said, defines the April Revolution as a national democratic revolution ensuring national progress by means of broad transformations of a democratic character. Our revolution is neither proletarian nor socialist. The April Revolution and the policy of national reconciliation engendered by life itself are of a nationwide character. Therefore the PDPA and revolutionary power are the organizers and conductors of this policy.

The main achievement of the 5 years since the previous PDPA national conference, Najibullah continued, is the onward development of the April Revolution, the consolidation of its gains, and our party's activity as the leading influential force. The first truly democratic elections have been held on a considerable part of the territory of Afghanistan and organs of people's power have been formed. The wish to put an end to the fratricidal war more quickly has brought us to the policy of national reconciliation. The people are its main protagonist. Despite war conditions, all prerevolutionary economic indicators have been exceeded. The rights gained by the people will be enshrined in the new constitution. In recent years the Armed Forces have considerably grown and strengthened. The international prestige of our state and party has increased.

When conducting a thorough analysis of the postrevolutionary years after the 18th Central Committee Plenum, we saw for ourselves that not a single key question in the life of Afghan society has been resolved by military means, despite all the efforts and sacrifices. A national peace program which could be implemented by means of reconciliation gradually formed and took shape. The PDPA Central Committee 20th Plenum and particularly the extraordinary plenum played an important role in concretizing and developing the realistic concept. In the 10 months since the extraordinary plenum, 1,600 villages have gone over to the side of the people's power and we now control 8,500 villages (more than one-third of all residential villages in the country), and also all 45 cities, 214 counties, and volosts. The provinces of Farah and Nimruz, whose populations have proclaimed them peace zones, have been practically completely liberated from extremist gangs. Despite the obstacles, 90,000 people have returned to the homeland from Pakistani and Iranian refugee camps. Some 30,000 rebels have gone over to the side of the people's power and more than 100,000 members of their families have returned with them to peaceful life.

The implementation of the policy of national reconciliation, Najibullah continued, has exacerbated all contradictions. The implementation of the new policy has proved a more complex matter than previously imagined. The policy of national reconciliation is still not irreversible in character. Not everything is in our power here. The enemy has stepped up military and political interference. Washington and its regional stooges are expanding their aggression against the Afghan people. The extremist counterrevolution is trying to thwart national reconciliation by any means.

Negative phenomena within the PDPA itself and the state apparatus are also a factor holding back implementation of the new policy. The difficulties of implementing the new policy have evoked definite confusion and pessimism among a certain section of leading workers and party members. These feelings persist among those who are reluctant to compromise with the opposition because of their fear of losing their posts and those who expected the enemy to retreat quickly. And although there are not many such people, the enemies play on their egoistic feelings, hoping to undermine unity and kindle factional struggle, cliquishness, clannishness, and sometimes even blood feuds.

The conference, Najibullah went on to say, must determine the content of the policy of national reconciliation at the new, second stage. Its programincludes completing the formation of the left-wing democratic bloc, developing a mechanism for cooperation with various parties, creating a coalition government and coalition administration organs in the localities, filling posts that we have offered to other side in the reconciliation, firmly preserving the state of cease-fire until 15 January 1988, facilitating the earliest return of refugees to the homeland, adopting Afghanistan's constitution, National Council elections, and electing the country's president. The process of national reconciliation must be accelerated in all directions.

What do we understand by acceleration? Resolute uncompromising struggle against implacable enemies of the cause of national peace and harmony. Active renewal of work style and methods to bring them into line with the new conditions. Intensification of all peacemaking work, and bold, resolute extension of reconciliation to all Afghanistan's territory. Winning over to our side all those who are undecided, using those who occupy neutral positions, educating and defending those who reject the counterrevolution and make the switch to peaceful life. Economic growth and the resolution of social tasks, boosting as far as possible the role of the commodity producer.

The process of reconciliation entails substantial amendments to Afghan society's political system. Talking about the multiparty system, Najibullah pointed out that existing or newly-created parties and organizations can act legally and freely if they struggle for national peace, for the good of the people and the fatherland. The process of cooperation and unification with left-wing democratic parties has begun to develop actively. Protocols have been signed with allied parties. The patriotically-minded clergy have shown their readiness to found an Islamic party. In entering the left-wing democratic bloc, the PDPA will not lose its identity and will remain the acknowledged national leading force. The Afghan leadership is seeking compromise with other political forces, including the right wing. Contacts are developing with certain representatives of the "Alliance of Seven" (the seven major counterrevolutionary groupings).

The principle of coalition, Najibullah continued, means that not one party but several parties united by a common policy of national concord will hold power. The people's political creativity gives rise in practice to diverse forms of coalition administration. These include elections of representatives from the opposite side to local soviets (1,149 of them have already been elected); the election of more than 6,000 recent opponents and also of refugees who have returned as members of the national reconciliation commissions; nomination of representatives of armed units to village and county volost soviets; the election of former chiefs of bandit units as leaders of counties, volosts, and provinces (361 former rebels are working as executive committee chairmen and secretaries at all levels); inviting ministers from former regimes to take up leading government posts; holding peace jirgahs at which decisions on peace and security are taken on a compromise basis; switching villages and counties with their own old forms of government to the side of the state power while observing the single requirement—that they not oppose the power.

The way to the outlined avenues of acceleration lies via the present stage of the struggle to develop the policy of national reconciliation and the second stage—its direct implementation and the ensuring of irreversibility of the process. The aims and slogans of the April national democratic Revolution are being retained. But at these two stages the party must support everything which helps to end the war and achieve national peace.

An important feature of the new political system is its constitutional character and the completion of the transition from the temporary statutes and norms set out in the basic principles of the DRA to a new constitution. Nationwide discussion of the draft constitution is now coming to an end. Nearly 2 million people have already taken part in it. Almost 15,000 proposals and comments have been received by the constitutional commission. A Loya Jirgah will be held at the end of November after the completion of the work on the draft in order to adopt the constitution and elect a president. The party, Najibullah said, reserves this post for itself.

In the light of the struggle for national reconciliation, questions of improving national relations are especially important. They must be resolved immediately for all nationalities and tribes. Haste and the slightest error must not be tolerated here.

Afghanistan's new political system will be a historic gain for the revolution, party, and people. It accords to a greater extent with our society's social structure, its further onward development, and the vital tasks of establishing and consolidating peace in the country. The people will not forget, Najibullah stressed, that our party at a critical moment in Afghanistan's history was the only one to find a political way out of the impasse of war and bloodshed and to create a genuinely representative sociopolitical system of peace and construction.

Only a strong, prestigious, cohesive PDPA can resolve the tasks which our conference is discussing, Najibullah continued. It is necessary to bring the party's internal life into line with the new conditions which are taking shape in the process of national reconciliation. The party rules must promote the restructuring of all party structures. Therefore the Central Committee is putting forward for examination by the conference a draft new edition of the PDPA Rules.

Talking about the problems of internal party life, the PDPA Central Committee general secretary stated that there are now 185,000 people in the party. The network of primary organizations embraces the whole country: There are 6,160 of them as of conference day. After the PDPA Central Committee July Plenum, meetings and conferences took place with a single agenda: concerning the results of the plenum and the election of delegates to the general party conference. They took place in an atmosphere of complete glasnost and democracy, confirming the party members' loyalty to the course of reconciliation and supporting the practical activity of the Central Committee and its Politburo.

The PDPA Central Committee general secretary dwelt on certain measures to improve cadre policy. In the future nominations to leadership posts at republic and province level will be ratified on the basis of recommendations from party organizations. Glasnost will be ensured during nominations, and glasnost will also be maintained in dismissing people from the posts they occupy. Restructuring of party political activity will have to be continued considerably more firmly. A real end result can only be achieved on the basis of a comprehensive approach to resolving the tasks of reconciliation. This is the essence of restructuring and one of the main goals of restructuring. The role of party committee secretaries, who must act as the main coordinators in the provinces, cities, counties, villages, and plants, is growing immeasurably in implementing the comprehensive approach. At the present stage the top person in the province is the PDPA provincial committee secretary.

We, Najibullah stressed, will have to carry out the most resolute, most persistent struggle against bureaucracy within the party and within the party apparatus. The style which the party needs at this time involves specificity, professionalism, unity of word and action, the choice of the most effective methods and means, the establishment of vital and direct links between the leadership and the party masses, careful consideration of people's opinions, reliance on the masses, and coordination of the actions of all social forces.

The PDPA Central Committee general secretary drew the delegates' attention to the need to further improve the mutual relations between the party and social organizations. A special department to oversee social organizations will be created in the Central Committee.

The speaker set the task of transforming the party's political educational work into a powerful accelerator for implementing the course of national reconciliation. Counterpropaganda and military-patriotic work and international education are being conducted poorly. In our semiliterate society, Najibullah said, we overestimate the importance of newspapers to the detriment of oral political agitation. It is necessary to reinforce the individual approach to working with people.

Speaking about unity among the party ranks, Najibullah noted that for a long period of time overt factional struggle undermining solidity and discipline has been rife in the party. The true nature of these phenomena must be sought in the pressure on the party from petty bourgeois forces [stikhiya] and their ideology. They also became possible as a result of party members' and above all leading cadres' poor knowledge of scientific revolutionary theory. From the first days of the party's existence factionalism and cliquishness were fueled by the very acute power struggle between individual groupings and their leaders, who were unable to overcome the habits of a cliquish organization. The PDPA must ensure cohesion, firm unity, and high combat capability among its ranks not in words but in deeds. If it does not achieve this today it will lose its commanding role in society and will be ousted from the political system. Therefore, the time has come to resolutely put an end to the factionalism and cliquishness which have for years corroded party unity and undermined party discipline.

The general secretary went on to dwell on questions of military building and the strengthening of the country's Armed Forces. The main result of the work of the PDPA and the DRA Government to strengthen the Armed Forces has been the growth of their combat readiness and combat capability.

We must especially mention the really invaluable aid which the internationalist soldiers from the limited contingent of Soviet troops have offered our people in its just struggle. It is the internationalist soldiers who, daily risking their lives, have saved thousands of Afghan children, women, and old people from bloody massacre and given the opportunity for workers to work in production, peasants to gather the harvest, and children to go to school. Thus the daily-strengthening brotherhood in arms between Afghan and Soviet soldiers is our asset which we must cherish like the apple of our eye and continually augment.

Our fatherland will be eternally grateful to the Soviet people and the internationalist soldiers for the fact that they helped and are continuing to help defend and build the new Afghanistan. The whole world knows that as soon as the United States and its allies guarantee noninterference in the internal affairs of the DRA the return of the internationalist soldiers to their peace-loving homeland will be immediately resumed.

However, many questions relating to military building and the strengthening of our Armed Forces' military might have still not been resolved. At present by no means all military units and formations can independently and successfully oppose the enemy.

We have every justification for affirming that our party's promulgation of the policy of national reconciliation has knocked the main, most current, and most fallacious slogans out of the counterrevolutionaries' hands.

If the leadership of the "Alliance of Seven" does not adopt a constructive position with regard to national reconciliation, we will speed up the establishment of contacts with the commanders of armed groups within the country and also with the commanders of second-echelon groups abroad. We propose that they join the coalition administration organs while at the same time retaining a certain degree of autonomy in the regions under their control. They will without doubt establish mutually advantageous contacts with the central government in Kabul.

We believe that during future contacts with the opposition abroad it is necessary to enlist moderate and neutral forces for the normalization of the situation in the country. A proposal is being made to open a representation in Kabul for the main opposition organizations providing that their leaders express agreement in principle with the idea of compromise.

In line with a decision of the party Central Committee July Plenum, a Politburo commission has completed its work on a new edition of the PDPA action program. The transformations implemented in the country over the last 5 years and the party's new course of national reconciliation have determined the need to collate the PDPA action program with life and with the new objective general laws of social development.

The new draft has been purged of the elements of overanticipation and manifestations of naivete and oversimplification which occurred earlier in the approach to fundamental problems in the revolutionary process.

The nationwide interest in peace determines the goal and the essence of the new political system. As for the PDPA, it is not renouncing will not renounce power, as individual comrades sometimes affirm, but is only renouncing the monopoly on power in order to make it more representative and more broadly based.

The character and essence of the Afghan state have been defined in a new way. This is of fundamental importance because vagueness on this question to a large extent helped give rise to fratricidal bloodshed. The party's position lies in ensuring that the character and essence of the Afghan state stem not from a narrow party approach but from objective reality, from the real correlation of forces. This will be facilitated by the definition of Afghanistan as a sovereign, neutral, nonaligned state, which has been formulated in the new edition.

We are on the threshold of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. In the last 70 years the USSR has reached unprecedented heights, has turned into a mighty power, and has become the stronghold of peace and progress for all the peoples of the planet. Afghan-Soviet friendship has stood the test of time, is developing, and has acquired new internationalist substance. This friendship is the Afghans' national pride and sacred possession.

On behalf of the Afghan people, in connection with the 70th anniversary of Great October, Najibullah conveyed to the Communists and all Soviet people words of gratitude, love, and respect and wishes for peace, happiness, prosperity, and tremendous success in their constructive creative work to implement their majestic plans.

The PDPA Central Committee general secretary posed the question of convening the Second PDPA Congress. Since the first congress, 23 years have elapsed, he said, which is in itself abnormal and incompatible with the norms of party life. We must renew the composition of the Central Committee and the Politburo, arm the party with new strategic guidelines for the future, and think about a more precise name for it. The congress could lay the foundations for the subsequent development of the PDPA as a cohesive vanguard party, as a factor for exerting a progressive influence on the entire course of future events in the country.

We have achievements, Najibullah said in conclusion, but they can and must be more significant. The policy of national reconciliation is at present just beginning. We will have to speed up acceleration.

National reconciliation is the continuation of the April Revolution.

Najibullah Discusses Reconciliation, War

LD122039 Moscow TASS in English 1722 GMT 12 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul October 12 TASS—The main task facing the party is the utmost speeding up and development of the process of reconciliation, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Najibullah said in an interview to the journal of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan *Party Affairs*. The enemies considerably intensified their efforts aimed at frustrating the policy of reconciliation. Washington and regional reaction seek to expand intervention in Afghanistan's affairs, the scopes of the undeclared war. But in the months that have passed since the course at reconciliation was proclaimed, the opposite side was unable to advance any positive programme in counterbalance to the reconciliation programme, Najibullah said. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is now faced with the task of finding new supporters for its peaceful policy, of expanding the social base of reconciliation by drawing in it those who are potentially for reconciliation.

The People's Democratic Party, the Afghan leader said, is the steering force of society and no one has relieved it of this responsibility. In conditions of coalition and existence of a multiparty system it will be prepared to share power but not to waive it. Therefore no one should have doubts and uncertainty about new steps of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

Dwelling on the questions of strengthening unity and cohesion of the party ranks, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan said that the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and its Political Bureau are united as never before and work in the atmosphere of confidence, openness and stringent responsibility. But there exist problems in this area, and they should not be dodged.

Efforts Made To End Rocket Attacks on Kabul

PM191225 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent D. Meshchaninov "Afghan Reportage": "Battle in the Valley"]

[Excerpt] Paghman-Kabul—After the announcement at the beginning of this year of the policy of national reconciliation, the situation in the Paghman district deteriorated considerably. The ringleaders of the counterrevolution decided to take complete control of this strategically important region of the country close to the capital. Dozens of well armed formations from practically all the opposition groupings operated in the district. Kabul was regularly bombarded with rockets from the region. Exhausted by the bandits' terror and pillaging, the local inhabitants left their familiar haunts. In June Interior Ministry forces began conducting military operations throughout the district with the approval of the Supreme Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation. Major General A. Zurmati [name as published] was appointed leader of the operation.

"They met with particularly stiff resistance from the villages of Usakhel and Dudamas [names as published]," the general said. "And not by accident. On the outskirts of Dudamas they found several launchers and not far away an entire missile store. Problems in the operation in the green zone—almost the entire territory of the district—are that it is difficult to utilize combat equipment. Innumerable minefields had to be overcome. The enemy could be in any patch of scrub or behind every tree. It came down to hand-to-hand fighting. For a period of 2 weeks our subunits 'cleaned up' the district, driving the dushmans back into the mountains and digging in in the captured positions. In total 290 villages were liberated."

The results of the operation were rapidly felt. The rocket bombardments of Kabul from Paghman stopped. People began to return to their homes. First in dozens, then in hundreds, then in thousands. Today there are about 60,000 people living in the district. A delegate is elected from each village to the District Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation. The neglected fields have been recultivated. With the aid of army subunits irrigation canals have been cleaned up, and mosques, bridges, and roads are being rebuilt. Many peasants have begun building new homes—this is the first sign that they want to settle down here in earnest and for a long time.

I was told that recently the terrorist group of a certain Gul Afgan was neutralized with the aid of the inhabitants of Karazak village. The dushman tactics have changed: They penetrate the district a few men at a time so as to commit sabotage, attack activists in the Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation, and to spread rumors that the people's power will be short-lived. They bombard the positions of the government troops with rockets almost every day from the mountaintops.

"The dushmans have launched against our subunits' positions at least 1,000 of the rockets which were previously intended for Kabul," Azim Zurmati said. "The more the situation in the district returns to normal, the more desperate the attempts of the 'holdouts' to wreck this process become."

...On the way back to Kabul our GAZ automobile wound its way along the twisting mountain road and stopped by a lake. It was Friday—the Afghan day off. There were many people on the shore and in the green glades. The people of Kabul are again frequenting their old favorite leisure spots. A carefree tune could be heard playing in the recently opened restaurant. The battle continued 20 km from here in the Pashan gorge. From time to time the echo of gunfire drowned out the sounds of the music.

Rebel's Sale of Stingers to Iran Addressed

LD210125 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0530 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Now over to (Aleksandr Shkerando), our correspondent in Kabul. He will comment on a report that Iran has received U.S. stinger antiaircraft missiles.

[(Shkerando)] Caspar Weinberger, the U.S. defense secretary, in a recent interview with the paper *The Wall Street Journal* indicated the probability that the Iranians obviously obtained a small number of these missiles this year on the border between Iran and Afghanistan while they were being carried across from Afghan rebels. Iran in turn asserts that they they acquired the missiles with the help of U.S. intermediaries. In my view it is now no longer so important to clarify how these missiles arrived in Iran, be it through the Afghan rebels or through intermediaries.

The main thing which is causing great anxiety and worry is that these automically guided antiaircraft missiles have begun to creep all over the world. Prior to this, as you know, they were destined for Afghan extremists and were used basically against aircraft and helicopters. They were frequently used by the rebels against civil and passenger transport aircraft. As a result more than 250 people have been killed this year along. Most of them were old men, women, and children.

Now, to judge from recent reports, the United States of America has been forced to defend itself in the Persian Gulf from its own weaponry. It is perfectly understandable that this circumstance has given rise to great anxiety in the Pentagon. But did the U.S. military department really fail to foresee that this weaponry could get out of control and be used against the Americans themselves?

Although the main base for the Afghan counterrevoluton is still Pakistan, on whose territory there are now more than 100 bandit training centers and areas as well headquarters, support bases with arms, and munitions dumps, nonethless Iran too plays no mean role in anti-Afghan actions. Every year up to 30,000 rebels undergo training on Iranian territory. It is perfectly understandable that there are close contacts between the Iranian authorities and the leaders of the Afghan extremists. In view of the greed of these leaders and their thirst for profit it cannot be ruled out that they sold several Stinger systems to Iran for a good price. Generally speaking, it should be noted that the entire activity of the Afghan counterrevolution is based entirely on commerce and everything in it can be bought and sold—the head of an Afghan officer killed in combat, or a party activist, or indeed the most up-to-date weaponry.

This aspiration has become particularly intense now when there has been a split in the camp of the seven main Islamic and anti-Afghan organizations. It is perfectly possible that Iran made the most of this situation.

Reconciliation in Afghanistan Continues

LD111648 Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 11 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul October 11 TASS—The process of national reconciliation continues in Afghanistan. A group of 200 sided with people's power in the southern province of Helmand. They declared their desire for ensuring peace and security. At the same time armed forces of the country continue inflicting strikes on units unwilling to stop the fratricidal war. The BAKHTAR agency reports that a gang of extemists which had terrorized population for a long time, was defeated in Takhar Province. A lot of firearms were seized. A detachment of the Vazir tribe routed a big caravan with arms and ammunition, heading from Peshawar to Khost area. A total of 15 bandits were killed during the clash. The supreme council of ulemas and clergy of Afghanistan strongly protested against the explosion in the Shir Pur mosque engineered by bandits. As a result of this outrage, 27 people were killed and 35 seriously wounded. Multithousand protest demonstrations against this crime of extremists were held in the provinces of Paktia and Balkh.

Former Dushman Leader Visits Uzbekistan

LD162348 Moscow TASS in English 1436 GMT 16 Oct 87

[Text] Tashkent October 16 TASS—"Dushman bandits are traitors to the interests of Afghan people. They do not defend the Holy Faith of the Prophet, as they try to convince uninitiated people, but are its enemies. I know this from my own experience," Haji Sultan Muhammad told TASS. In the past he headed a large gang of dushmans and then voluntarily sided with the Afghan Government. In the recent past he became chairman of the Executive Committee of the Council of People's Representatives in Baghlan Province. He also holds the post of deputy chairman of the Special National Reconciliation Commission of this province. Haji Sultan Muhammad is familiarizing himself with the life of Uzbekistan (a Soviet central Asian republic).

"We swore on the Koran," Muhammad went on to say, "that we shall spare no forces to consolidate people's power which expresses the interests of all Afghans. Last February I was in Geneva where I participated in the work of the U.N. Human Rights Commission. Representatives of the USA and Britain talked much that human rights were allegedly violated in Afghanistan. And who violates Afghans' right to life? I can say quite definitely: Bandits kill women, children and the aged with Western weapons. U.S. instructors trained us in Peshawar how to handle them. What is then the price of hypocritical talk about the Western countries' desire for peace in my country?

"We were constantly told in Pakistani camps that Islam is forbidden in the USSR," said Haji Sultan Muhammad. "I've got convinced here, in Uzbekistan that nobody persecutes Moslems, they are guaranteed full freedom of conscience. Along with my Uzbek co-believers, I performed prayers at wonderful Tashkent mosques and visited the religious board of Moslems of central Asia and Kazakhstan.

"The policy of national reconciliation conducted now by our government, is the only reasonable solution of the Afghan problem. Therefore, all who hold dear the destiny of the Afghan people, sincerely support it," pointed out Haji Sultan Muhammad.

Western 'Lies,' 'Disinformation' on DRA Scored

PM121907 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Oct 87 First Edition p 3

[V. Vinogradov "Military-Political Commentary": "With Slander and 'Stingers'"]

[Text] About 50 Western radio stations, especially Voice of America, have declared a veritable ideological war on Afghanistan. A total of approximately 100 hours in every 24 are spent pouring down streams of foul lies and misinformation upon this country. In addition to this, about a dozen dushman radio voices—financed by U.S. dollars—have begun broadcasting from Pakistani territory.

But this does not seem to have been enough for the organizers of this radio offensive against the DRA. Exactly 2 years ago, the so-called "Radio Free Afghanistan," a subversive radio station specially created on the basis of funds allocated by the U.S. Congress, began broadcasting, too. It should be emphasized that this anti-Afghan mouthpiece has not been located just anywhere but in the West German city of Munich, home of such old "grand masters" of lies and slander as "Radio Liberty" and "Radio Free Europe." Six hours per day, this new radio voice disgorges all manner of fantasies about DRA events, broadcasting in Dari. Just under a month ago, "Radio Free Afghanistan" supplemented its programs in Dari with another 6 hours of broadcasts in Pashto.

Attempting with the aid of this ideological sabotage to distort the true state of affairs in the DRA, slander the policy of its government, and justify the undeclared war being waged by the United States and certain other countries against the Afghan people, Washington uses tried and trusted methods of imperialist propaganda—lies, slander, and juggling the facts. What is more, as a rule, any report on present-day Afghanistan is accompanied by stereotyped references such as "according to information obtained from refugees," "according to eyewitnesses," or "from reliable diplomatic sources."

However, according to the Indian newspaper *The Patriot*, "information centers" set up using CIA funds and with CIA help are the main sources of "information on the DRA" for all kinds of radio voices and also for the Western press. The "Afghan Documentation Center," the "Afghan Press Agency," the "Jihad Agency," and other Afghan counterrevolutionary propaganda organs in Peshawar in Pakistan serve as the main "lie factories."

The U.S. Embassy in Islamabad is also an important center of subversive propaganda against the DRA. A report in *The Washington Post* shed light on its unseemly role in this slander. "Almost every week about a dozen foreign correspondents working in Islamabad meet at one of the Western embassies to be given the latest information on Afghanistan." This is how the newspaper described meetings in the wake of which stories on the DRA conjured out of thin air appear in the newsreels of Western news agencies, in the pages of Western bourgeois newspapers, and on the air.

Although these meetings are held in various embassies and not just the U.S. Embassy, *The Washington Post* points out, it is American diplomats who disseminate the false information at them. Moreover, as the newspaper itself admits, these staffers "have not actually been to Afghanistan" and "often become muddled when trying to pronounce the names of Afghan population centers unfamiliar to them."

It is true that the organizers of ideological sabotage against the DRA are now trying to diversify their "sources" of information on this country. For example, the USIA is currently conducting an "Afghan project in the mass information sphere." Members of counterrevolutionary rebel formations are being given a U.S.-Financed course in journalism so that "returning home, they can supply news for the Western mass media."

But, to all appearances, Washington is aware of the futility of its propaganda exercises. What other explanation is there for the fact that U.S. arms supplies, including Stinger antiaircraft missiles, to the dushman rabble increase with every year? The people in the U.S. capital evidently believe that, by supplementing its radio salvos of lies and misinformation with Stinger missiles used to bring down passenger aircraft, it will ultimately be able to break the will of the Afghan people for a new, democratic life.

But these are futile hopes.

Pakistan Refuses Visas to Afghan Delegation

LD122158 Moscow TASS in English 2008 GMT 12 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul October 12 TASS—An Afghan delegation, led by Sulayman La'eq, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and minister of nationalities and tribal affairs, has been denied a visa for a trip to Pakistan, the Afghan Foreign Ministry said today.

The ministry's report, carried by BAKHTAR news agency, said the delegation was going to visit in Pakistan Pashtun leader Abdul Ghafar Khan, one of the most prominent political and public figures in the region, who is gravely ill.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan regards the ban on the Afghan delegation's entry to Pakistan as an act running counter to the standards of humanity, good-neighbourly relations and international law.

Pakistan Aims To Resume U.S. Aid

LD181639 Moscow TASS in English 0932 GMT 18 Oct 87

[Text] New Delhi October 18 TASS—TASS correspondent Aleksey Kuznetsov reports:

Islamabad is continuing to seek a resumption of American military-economic aid which has been suspended following the arrest of Pakistani spy Arshad Pervez in the United States for his attempt to steal a specialty steel used in nuclear weapons production.

It is with this aim, the well-informed newspaper *Times of India* reported, that the Ziaul Haq administration had provided U.S. judicial authorities with data suggesting that Pervez had acted as a private person without the knowledge of the Pakistani Government.

The paper said U.S. Democratic Senator John Glenn had dismissed those explanations at a Senate hearing as simply unacceptable. He noted that Islamabad had relied for more than ten years on a worldwide network of government agents and intermediaries to provide equipment for its secret program to develop nuclear weapons.

Glenn pointed to press reports and court documents as confirming the Pakistani officialdom's involvement in most of the recent contraband operations to obtain needed materials.

Vorotnikov Meets With Indian Visitors

PM151521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Guests From India"]

[Text] V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, on 12 October received a delegation from Uttar Pradesh State (India), which is visiting the Soviet Union at the invitation of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

During the conversation the guests were briefed on the restructuring now under way in the Soviet Union and the preparations for celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and were informed of the way tasks concerning social and economic development are being resolved in the RSFSR.

There was an exchange of opinions on topical international problems of our time. V.I. Vorotnikov drew the attention of his interlocutors to the Soviet peace intiatives aimed at averting the threat of nuclear war and creating an all-embracing system of international peace and security.

It was noted in particular that the relations of sincere friendship and cooperation between the USSR and India play an important role in the struggle for the preservation of universal peace and the creation of a new type of relations in line with the Delhi Declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free of nuclear weapons.

The sides advocated the development of friendly relations between the RSFSR and Uttar Pradesh, India's largest state, which will help to strengthen friendship and diverse cooperation between the USSR and India.

The conversation proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Vorontsov Interviewed on Visit to Egypt

LD201126 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 19 Oct 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] In recent years political and economic relations between the Soviet Union and Egypt have been significantly expanded.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent Kim Gerasimov] In the next few days Soviet consulates will reopen in Alexandria and Port Said. On the threshold of Great October the recently reconstituted Egypt-USSR Friendship Society, whose board is made up of prominent public and political figures, is stepping up its activities. Here in Cairo, as in Moscow, the hope is being expressed that our relations will be further developed in this direction. This is being facilitated by the Soviet Union's active Near East policy, which, as historical experience shows, is in keeping with the genuine interests of the peoples in the region.

The principled nature and consistency of this policy was stressed by Comrade Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister, during a meeting with Egyptian President Mubarak. His tour of a number of countries in the Near East began with Cairo. It has aroused great interest among the Arab and international press.

[Kim Gerasimov addresses Vorontsov] Yuliy Mikhaylovich, what is the aim of your trip to the Near East?

[Vorontsov] The Soviet leadership is very concerned about the question of a Near East settlement. Recently more and more countries are advocating the holding of a Near East conference for a peace settlement. We are talking about a full-blooded international conference with the participation of all countries that are affected by this conflict, or those that can help in resolving it. We have begun consultations with the Egyptian Government on this question. A meeting took place with President Mubarak and the Egyptian foreign minister. The consultations have been very useful.

[Kim Gerasimov] Was the problem of the situation in the Persian Gulf touched upon?

[Vorontsov] It was discussed by President Mubarak and myself. He displayed considerable interest in the Soviet proposals for the speediest halt to the Iran-Iraq war. An account was given on our side about the recent Soviet initiatives in this direction, in particular the proposal to withdraw all foreign ships and warships from the zone of the Persian Gulf, and the proposal about the possibility of setting up special UN naval forces, which could help here in implementing the Security Council resolution on halting the war. On the whole we are satisfied with the consultations that have been conducted here. [end recording]

Algerian Energy Minister Arrives in Moscow

LD141540 Algiers APS in English 1041 GMT 14 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, 14/10/87 (APS)—Belkacem Nabi, CC member, minister of energy, chemical and petrochemical industries arrived yesterday in Moscow for a working visit in the frame of concertations between the oil producing countries OPEC member and the producing countries non OPEC member. [sentence as received]

Nabi's visit follows the OPEC meeting held in Vienna on last September and during which Algeria was charged with getting into contact with certain (?producing) countries in prevailing on the international oil [words indistinct] minister who is due to meet during [words indistinct] several members of the Soviet Government will also have talks with them on development prospects and relations between the two countries in the field of energy and chemical.

Meets With B. Aristov

LD162207 Moscow TASS in English 2143 GMT 16 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 16 TASS—USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Boris Aristov met in Moscow today with Minister of Energy and Petrochemical industry of Algeria Belkacem Nabi who is staying in the Soviet Union on behalf of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting countries (OPEC).

It was reaffirmed during the conversation that the Soviet Union will continue supporting the policy of OPEC aimed at stabilizing the world petroleum market and fixing equitable prices in the interests of petroleum producers and consumers.

The opinion about the usefulness of the meetings was expressed. Soviet organisations will continue holding such meetings with OPEC representatives on questions of the situation in world petroleum market and will be honouring arrangements.

Discusses Trade With Antonov

LD152010 Moscow TASS in English 1854 GMT 15 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Alexey Antonov today received Minister of Energy and Petrochemical Industries of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic Belkacem Nabi staying in Moscow as guest of the Soviet Government.

The state of and prospects for Soviet-Algerian commercial and economic cooperation were discussed during the conversation.

Algeria's Ambassador to the USSR Abdellah Fedal took part in the meeting that passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Ends 4-Day Visit

LD162101 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 Oct 87

[Text] Belkacem Nabi, minister of energy, chemical, and petrochemical industries, today in Moscow held talks with the chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and with the Minister of Foreign Trade. They tackled the situation of the international oil market and the OPEC efforts to stabilize it. Mr Nabi left Moscow this afternoon following a 4-day visit to the Soviet Union within the framework of the consultations between OPEC and non OPEC oil producing countries.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister on Moscow Visit, Talks

LD201350 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, last week in Moscow Soviet-Kuwaiti talks were held on the development of economic, scientific, technical, and artistic cooperation between the two countries. The Kuwaiti side at these talks was led by Oil Minister 'Ali al-Khalifa al-Adbi al-Sabah. Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa is visiting Moscow for the second time, as his first visit to the Soviet capital took place a year and half ago at the head of the Kuwaiti delegation which held talks on the development of cooperation with the Soviet Union. Some of the agreements which were made at that time are now being implemented. In answer to my question about the contents and results of the talks Kuwaiti minister 'Ali al-Khalifa said:

[Begin recording] [Al-Sabah] During this visit we have covered new ground, as we have laid down a sound foundation for continuing our work in the sphere of economic cooperation by way of a Kuwaiti-Soviet joint commission which will meet twice a year, once in Moscow and once in Kuwait, to follow-up the joint projects between the two countries. We discussed the scope of cooperation in specific projects—oil projects both in Kuwait and in the Soviet Union, as each country has capabilities and expertise which the other country can benefit from. We concentrated on increased cooperation in the hydrological field. This cooperation is good and we see a great scope for developing it.

We also discussed the question of health cooperation between the two countries by way of studying the establishment of some institutes in the Soviet Union to serve the sick from the Gulf. There is also an agreement which was reached by the health ministers regarding cooperation in this field.

More importantly, we have laid down the foundation for continuing our contacts periodically and practically and for following up these projects continuously so that we can put them into effect. As for the political aspect, the attitudes of both Kuwait and the Soviet Union are close or identical on many issues, whether bilateral or international. We are two peace-loving peoples, and we all do whatever we can to this end. Regarding the Gulf war, the two sides are of the view that it is necessary to end this war according Security Council Resolution 598. Thus there is an identity of views and we hope that economic cooperation between us will increase to the same degree of maturity which the political cooperation between the two countries has reached.

[Timoshkin] Mr Minister on the occasion of your visit there have been rumors and stories about the background of Kuwaiti-Soviet cooperation. You know what I mean, is there anything secret in this cooperation?

[Al-Sabah] Kuwaiti-Soviet cooperation is in the interest of both peoples, and there is nothing secret in this cooperation. Every time they meet the two sides declare whatever has been agreed upon and whatever has been studied prior to the agreement stage. To say that there are secret aspects of the agreement is unacceptable and contrary to the policy of both friendly countries. [end recording]

Supreme Soviet Greets Saudi King on National Day

LD091708 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 9 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 9 TASS—In connection with the National day of Saudi Arabia, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet sent a congratulatory message to King Fahd Ibn 'abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud. The message expresses good wishes to the friendly people of Saudi arabia and to King Fahd personally. In the reply message the head of the Saudi State expresses gratitude for congratulations and the hope for the implementation of the striving of the peoples of both countries for greater security, stability and peace on earth.

PDRY Officials Visit USSR, See Solomentsev

PM151009 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Oct 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] A delegation of the Yemen Socialist Party [YSP] headed by Kh. Mulidh, member of the YSP Central Committee, visited the Soviet Union 1-9 October in accordance with the plan for ties between the CPSU and the YSP. The delegation studied the experience of organizing party control in the CPSU.

The South Yemeni comrades had conversations at the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee and made a trip to Stravropol Kray, where they studied the work practice of party control organs at local level.

The delegation members visited a number of the kray's industrial and agricultural enterprises, and were briefed on party organizations' activity in carrying out the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, and on progress in restructuring all spheres of Soviet society's life.

The delegation was received by M.S. Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, and had a warm, friendly conversation with him. I.S. Gustov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the Party Control Committee, took part in the conversation.

Official on Ties With Israel, Gulf War

JN131246 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 13 Oct 87 pp 1, 24

[By Hamadah Fara'inah]

[Text] Amman—Professor Vitaliy (Naumkin), chief of the Arab Countries Section at the Oriental Studies Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences [title as published], has denied the existence of any new development in Soviet relations. In an exclusive statement to *Al-Ra'y*, Vitaliy affirmed that what was said about change or flexibility in the Soviet stand after the Shevardnadze-Peres meeting, or the possibile resumption of full or partial diplomatic relations between the USSR and the Zionist entity, is information aimed at driving a wedge in Soviet-Arab relations, based on confidence and mutual respect.

Vitaliy said: The reasons for severing Moscow-Tel Aviv diplomatic relations still exist. These are clearly due to Israel's expansionist and aggressive stand toward the Palestinian Arab people and their legitimate rights, acknowledged by the international community and the United Nations. These reasons are also due to its hostility to the Arab right to freedom and independence. Israel is also playing a sabotage role against the USSR and all other forces of peace and good in the world, especially after signing the strategic cooperation accord with the United States. Therefore, we did not notice any change in the nature and reality of the Zionist state. This prompts us to adhere to our principled stand in support of just Arab rights. We also refuse to turn the subject of resuming diplomatic relations with Israel into a subject for bargaining or separate it from the general framework of a Middle East settlement. For these reasons it is impossible to improve Soviet-Israeli relations.

Concerning the Soviet stand on the Iraq-Iran war, Vitaliy said: the USSR did not supply Iran with weapons directly or through mediators. We have warned our Arab freinds of the gravity of this war and the need to stop it. We realized the grave consequences of this war, therefore, we exerted sincere efforts for the issuance of UN Security Council Resolution 598 and cooperated with the UN secretary general for the sake of its implementation. Although the USSR appreciates Javier Perez de Cuellar's tour of the region, we do not believe that tour achieved the desired results. However, I can say that Iran did not openly reject the UN resolution. Like Iraq, Iran has its conditions for accepting it. Although, we differentiate between the Iraqi and the Iranian positions, since we hold Iran responsible for the continuation of the war, we should say that there is a change in the Iranian stand represented by abandoning the impossible slogans and conditions formerly raised and called for in order to stop the war. This requires us not to rush the imposition of sanctions on Iran before exhausting all available means. The essence of the current dispute, which is being discussed, is represented by the change in the order of priorities, conditions, and demands between Iraq and Iran. This requires the United Nations and its secretary general to continue their efforts to find a common denominator between the two sides which can contribute to ending the destructive war and bloodshed between them, and blocking the road to interference by foreign fleets which is leading to an unfavorable situation.

Dr Vitaliy; Dr (Pavel Polyakov), correspondent member of the academy of Sciences and deputy chief of the Oriental Studies Institute at the Academy of Sciences in the Soviet Uzbekistan Republic; and Mikhail Petrovskiy, chief researcher at the Leningrad section of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, held a seminar at the Soviet Cultural Center in Amman the day before yesterday under the title "Soviet Oriental Studies and Soviet Middle East policy". During the seminar they pointed to the importance the USSR attaches to the Middle East area and to bolstering relations with the Arab countries. This is due to the historical and cultural ties between the peoples of the Soviet Union, especially the states of central Asia and the Arab peoples. They affirmed that the Soviet leadership and peoples show great interest in the researches and studies issued by Soviet academic institutions on Arab culture and heritage. Soviet libraries have thousands of Arab and Islamic manuscripts which are being translated and published on a large-scale in the Soviet Union.

Possible Israeli SDI Deal Criticized

TA172100 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 17 Oct 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] An Israeli delegation made up of representatives of the Israeli army and military industries is currently holding talks in the United States for the expansion of strategic cooperation. Besides the usual topic discussed in such talks, the quantity of U.S. military aid, the two sides are discussing Pentagon orders from the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] totaling $200 million. At first glance it seems that reference is to a regular deal, despite the large sum of money involved. After all, the IAI is marketing its produce to many countries, including the United States: Kfir planes and pilotless espionage planes for the U.S. Air Force. Furthermore, is it not the right time to welcome a deal that would help end the crisis at IAI now that the Lavi project has been canceled, a crisis resulting in nonuse of equipment at the IAI plants and in preparations for mass dismissals? Nevertheless, reference in this case is not to the supply of planes or any other Israeli military products to the United States. This time the body that placed the order is the Star Wars project authority, which is engaged in development within the framework of the SDI plan. According to U.S. proposals, the IAI plants will develop tactical-operational systems against missiles of the ATBM [as heard] model. It was reported by circles close to the Israeli delegation that these missiles will be put into operation 2 years after the deal is signed.

A series of questions arise here, questions which in our opinion the Israeli public cannot refrain from asking its national leadership. First, what connection is there between work ordered by General Abrahamson's office and Israel's security needs? Israel, after all, does not need such missiles, for the simple reason that the Arabs do not possess the kind of arms for which the missiles are intended. It is true that for 3 yeara now the CIA has been engaged in leaking information to the effect that the Soviet Union is sending such missiles to Syria, as it were. This is disinformation. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin himself recently admitted that according to data possessed by the military intelligence, there are no such missiles in the Middle East and no preparations whatsoever are under way for their deployment. In other words, thousands of Israeli workers and engineers of the military industries will be responsible for a project which is not intended to meet national security needs but for the implementation of U.S. plans.

Nevertheless, will state security not be harmed by Israel's participation in the development of the antimissile missile systems? Should only economic aspects of the anticipated deal be taken into consideration? Should the profits of the IAI only be taken into account? The answer for this is negative. Imagine for a moment how the Israeli Government would have reacted had Syria, for instance, procured a certain kind of arms that were unusually new for the region. It would surely have immediately ordered the development or the purchase of similar or different weapons to neutralize the potential danger.

It would have also been difficult to pass judgment on Israel in this case, since distrust and suspicion in the region have been accumulating enormously over the tens of years of conflict. Still, such a situation is hypothetical for Israel. As far as the Arabs are concerned though, this is reality. It is not difficult to guess their reaction in advance. The Middle East would be swept into an armaments race, this time involving mass liquidation weapons. Tension in the region would increase and Israel's security would be jeopardized.

Nonetheless, this is not the main point. The main danger lies in that Israel's production of the ATBM missiles will negatively affect the general situation in the world, particulary now when prospects for the beginning of nuclear disarmament have finally emerged. It is clear that the elimination of medium-range and shorter-range missiles, regarding which a dialogue was reached in the talks in Washington, will not benefit only the Soviet Union and the United States. This agreement will not remain a unique episode in East-West relations. The possibility now opened for a dialogue over the question of the basic limitation of stragetic arms will materialize only if the ABM agreement is not violated. The Pentagon representatives note, as they have in tha past, that it will be possible to deploy the Israeli-produced ATBM missiles in Israel and in Europe, along the line of confrontation between East and West. It seems unnecessary to clarify how this will influence the chances of detente. In this case we are not referring to any retaliatory measures which will be aimed against Israel in particular. Frankly speaking, the State of Israel is not a neutral country. It is today part of the military-strategic potential of one of the large blocs. Is it then not in the interest of the Israeli people that relations between the two blocs improve rather than deteriorate? By aiding in the implementation of the SDI program, Israel contributes to increased tension and may ultimately find itself dragged, even against its will, into a confrontation which developed due to the United States.

Mixed Reactions to VOA Transmitter Project

TA091925 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 9 Oct 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The U.S. State Department's decision to hold up allocation of $50 million for the erection of Voice of America [VOA] transmitters in Israel has aroused mixed reactions in the United States. Sober statesmen welcomed the decision not because it was made to save money from the coming budgetary year but, first and foremost, in the understanding that erection of another center of subversive anti-Soviet propaganda, particularly against republics [words indistinct] could damage development of correct relations between the two superpowers. In contrast to this, a general recruitment was declared in [words indistinct] the U.S. rejectionist front. These groups have already begun feverish activity to obtain extrabudgetary funding and begin building. Israel is not being asked. If they wish, they will establish another center for anti-Soviet propaganda in it [words indistinct] VOA, but also of the Liberty and Free Europe stations. Sometimes we in the Soviet Union would like to hope that Washington has taken advantage of the funding question simply as a pretext [words indistinct] willingness to prove its campaign of information concerning the Soviet Union. If this is really so, we must welcome such a development without any reservations. Furthermore, in this case we would be able to anticipate that there will also be a change in the Israeli Government's information policy primarily on the question of installation of transmitters of anti-Soviet broadcasting stations on the lines of Liberty or Free Europe. If we are to be genuinely objective, however, the impression is that it is not in Washington that [words indistinct] Americans forced the State Department to hold up the allocation of funds. Washington was forced to take into account strong opposition of wide public groups in Israel to erection of the transmitters as a symbol of the strategic pact, of friendship between Israel and the United States. Sober statesmen in Israel, including those in the establishment, have warned against the destructive consequences of a policy that tries to prove friendly relations with one superpower through showing demonstrative hostility toward another superpower. The role of those public forces in Israel that opposed establishment of the transmitters was also not a minor one. [Words indistinct] from ecological reasons of defense of the environment [words indistinct] all of these had an effect on broad groups in the public, and it was an important victory for sanity over blind [word indistinct] of the Americans in foreign policy. We often talk now about the chances for [word indistinct] international relations, about a comparison between reconstruction in our country and the process of working out political solutions in the socialist world, about the new thinking in the nuclear era, thinking that is also needed to change [words indistinct] in the Middle East. All this development will only be possible, however, if all the countries and nations are prepared to take steps toward the others. Concerning the Middle East problems and the question of relations between the Soviet Union and Israel, the conclusion must be drawn that only a responsible and balanced approach toward all the existing problems can lead to a genuine change in the situation.

East Europe

Jaruzelski Interviewed on Missile Cuts

LD171526 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 17 Oct 87

[Text] Pyongyang October 17 TASS—The Soviet-American agreement in principle on the question of medium-range and shorter-range missiles is a practical step on the way towards eliminating the threat of war. A statement to this effect to the newspaper *Minju Chosen* was made by Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee, chairman of the Polish Council of State.

The foreign policy activity of the socialist countries is closely linked with the processes of internal change under way in them and is based on the political strategy outlined by the 27th Congress of the CPSU and the congresses of the other fraternal parties, the Polish leader said. Their joint efforts are aimed at strengthening the fundamentals of peaceful coexistence, security and international cooperation, leave a favourable effect on lessening international tensions. Poland's participation in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the defense alliance of the Warsaw Treaty member states, he said, ensures security and peaceful conditions for a successful development of the country.

Wojciech Jaruzelski expressed support for the DPRK's peace initiatives and confidence that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Polish and the Korean peoples will further steadily develop.

RCP Discusses Economic Problems

PM210921 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Volodin report: "After Strict Analysis: RCP Central Committee Plenum Conclusions and Decisions"]

[Text] Bucharest—In addition to organizational issues and preparation for the RCP national conference and the upcoming 15 November election of deputies to local people's councils, the plenum that was held a few days ago devoted particular attention to implementation of the unified national plan for Romania's socioeconomic development in the 1st 9 months of this year and to measures to meet plan targets in the last quarter and 1987 as a whole. The fact that secretaries of regional party committees and directors of industrial associations and leading scientific research institutes who are not members of the RCP Central Committee took part in the plenum's work is evidence of the importance of the problems submitted for discussion.

The decision to convene the plenum was made at the end of September at a RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee (Polexco) session, which discussed measures to implement the program to repair and commission a series of power installations, including heat and electric power stations at Rovinari and Turceni. Everyone remembers the last hard winter, when, in an attempt to conserve electricity and heating for enterprises, residential areas in many cities had their heating and light cut off temporarily. After hearing reports from the prime minister and first deputy prime minister responsible for the state of affairs in this sector, the Polexco admitted that performance in the power industry sphere is totally unsatisfactory. Revealing serious shortcomings in work which have resulted in a failure to meet deadlines for the repair and commissioning of power industry installations, the Polexco decided to release Gheorghe Petrescu, deputy prime minister, and Ioan Avram, minister of electric power, from their duties and also proposed that the question of their dismissal from the RCP Central Committee be examined at a party plenum. The Polexco dismissed some senior personnel from the Ministry of Electric Power and the Rovinari and Turceni heat and electric power stations. It instructed state organs and the prosecutor's office to investigate the situation and bring charges against those responsible in accordance with Romanian law.

But the central issue on the agenda of the forthcoming plenum was decided by the Polexco session held 3 October. Strictly analyzing progress in meeting plan targets during the 1st 9 months of this year, the Polexco concluded that, despite the certain degree of growth in comparison to the previous year, output is still lower than envisaged by the plan. The mining, oil extraction, metallurgical, and chemical industries are lagging seriously behind, as are certain machine building sectors. Profits from the sale of finished products, including for export, do not meet the plan targets.

The resultant situation required the formulation of urgent measures to improve economic activity in order to successfully meet this year's plan targets. The discussion of these measures was also included on the RCP Central Committee Plenum agenda.

Studying the results of implementation of the unified national plan for socioeconomic development in the 1st 9 months of this year, the RCP Central Committee Plenum concluded that a number of sectors in the national economy have fallen behind because of serious shortcomings in management, planning, material and technical supply, and actual output. The creation of this situation has also been affected by various hitches concerning the use of capital investments and the commissioning, repair, and operation of equipment. As a result, despite being fully supplied with raw materials, 250 industrial enterprises have been unable to achieve their design capacity. The plenum participants were rightly alarmed by the fact that all these issues had already been discussed at the previous plenum but, as N. Ceausescu, secretary general of the RCP, stressed, "conclusions have not been drawn, nor has every measure been taken to instill order and increase responsibility and discipline."

A similar situation has also taken shape in agriculture, where, despite clear successes compared with last year, results are a long way short of plan targets. There can be no question that the long, cold spring followed by the summer drought have had a detrimental effect. But all the wheat and barley losses were largely the result of failure to comply with sowing techniques.

Having revealed the causes of the situation, the RCP Central Committee Plenum concentrated attention on ways to make up the lag. Pointing out that some industrial sectors have greatly exceeded their raw material consumption norms, the plenum resolved to review these norms and ensure that the corresponding reductions are made within 1 month. In this connection economic workers' attention was drawn to the need to make more effective use of secondary resources so that sectors meet at least 50 percent of their essential raw material needs, with certain sectors exceeding this figure.

The plenum attached importance to further improving the financial mechanism, improving labor organization, modernizing production, achieving growth in labor productivity on this basis, and improving output quality. The RCP Central Committee Plenum urged the management of the mining, oil extraction, metallurgical, petrochemical, and power industries, and also some machine building sectors, to radically change their work style and methods and take every measure necessary to make up the lag and successfully meet this year's plan targets.

Ceausescu Meets Greek CP Leader

LD152254 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 15 Oct 87

[Text] Bucharest October 15 TASS—General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party Nicolae Ceausescu has met with visiting General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece Kharilaos Florakis.

AGERPRES news agency reported that the sides expressed the desire to further develop and strengthen relations between the two parties.

They stressed that the ending of the arms race and transition to disarmament, above all nuclear disarmament, were the chief problems of the times.

They stressed the importance of transforming the Balkans into a zone of goodneighbourhood, peace and cooperation, free from foreign troops and military bases, and establishing such zones in northern and central Europe.

The leaders of the two communist parties voiced the need for strengthening the unity of communist and workers' parties, all progressive forces in the campaign to prevent war and endorse a policy of detente, security and peace, mutual understanding and cooperation in the Balkans, in Europe and the world at large.

Roundtable on Democracy Held With Romanians

PM210843 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Oct 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] A Soviet-Romanian "roundtable" meeting with the participation of a group of RCP representatives headed by N. Croitoru, candidate member of the RCP Central Committee and secretary of Bucharest party municipal committee, was held at the CPSU Central Committee Social Sciences Academy 15-17 October. Topical theoretical and practical questions of the development of socialist democracy were discussed. The guests had talks at a CPSU Central Committee department, Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and the capital's Baumanskiy Rayispolkom.

Ceausescu, Zhivkov Address Friendship Rally

LD092259 Moscow TASS in English 1816 GMT 9 Oct 87

[Text] Sofia October 9 TASS—Bulgaria and Romania welcome the agreement reached in principle by the Soviet Union and the United States to eliminate Soviet and American medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles. This was emphasized by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, president of the Council of State of Bulgaria, and Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of Romania.

Zhivkov and Ceausescu spoke at a Bulgarian-Romanian friendship rally here today.

The Bulgarian leader stressed in his remarks the importance of implementing the Soviet proposal for the establishment of a system of comprehensive security and expressed support for new ideas going in that direction recently put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The Romanian leader pointed to the importance of a treaty banning nuclear weapon tests. Such a treaty, he said, would meet the interests of all peoples, including Soviet and American peoples.

Todor Zhivkov and Nicolae Ceausescu were unanimous in recognizing the importance of turning the Balkan peninsula into a zone free from nuclear and chemical weapons, a region of peace and goodneighborly relations.

The speakers reaffirmed the readiness of both countries to develop relations with other socialist states on a broad basis.

We welcome the process of renewal which began in the U.S.S.R. after the 27th CPSU Congress, the Bulgarian leader said. The ideas of the Great October Socialist Revolution are developing and being implemented with new vigor.

On the same day Nicolae Ceausescu ended his official friendly visit to Bulgaria and left Sofia.

Banev-led BCP Delegation Visits
PM201419 Moscow PRAVDA inRussian18 Oct 87Second Editionp 4

[TASS report: "BCP Delegation in USSR"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for CPSU-BCP ties, a BCP delegation headed by G. Banev, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee and secretary of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat Commission for Organizational Party Questions, was in the Soviet Union 12 through 16 October.

The Bulgarian comrades familiarized themselves with the experience of the CPSU's organizational party work under the conditions of restructuring. Meetings were held at the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department and another department, the Udmurt Oblast party organization, and the CPSU Central Committee's Social Sciences Academy and Institute of Marxism-Leninism.

Syria's Al-Asad Arrives in Bulgaria
LD202121 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Sofia October 20 TASS—Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party and president of Syria, arrived here today for an official friendly visit at the invitation of Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of Bulgaria's State Council.

According to Bulgarian press reports, the two sides will analyze cooperation between Syria and Bulgaria and the situation in the Middle East and consider topic issues of the international situation.

Sofia Seminar Discusses Cooperation
PM161511 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian14 Oct 87Morning Editionp 5

[TASS report: "Seminar Held"]

[Text] Sofia, 13 Oct—The second seminar on developing forms of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between Bulgarian and Soviet economic organizations has been held here. It was organized by the two countries' chambers of trade and industry.

A press conference here reported that in the Soviet and Bulgarian machine building complex alone 13 international associations have been set up and direct ties established between 56 enterprises. There are 19 joint Soviet-Bulgarian firms in all, and hundreds of plants, factories, scientific research institutes, and other establishments are in direct contact with one another.

Kulikov Attends Dresden GOSR Conference
PM150929 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Oct 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "In Dresden"]

[Text] Berlin, 10 October—A GDR National People's Army scientific conference devoted to the 70th anniversary of Great October has been held at the Friedrich Engels Military Academy in Dresden. Army General H. Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and GDR minister of national defense; Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces; and B.A. Belikov, commander in chief of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany; took part in its work.

The speakers pointed out that the Great October Socialist Revolution was the main historic event of the 20th century. The responsibility of the GDR National People's Army and all the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces for the collective defense of socialist gains was stressed.

West Europe

Belgian Broadcasting Agreements Signed
LD211021 Moscow TASS in English 2255 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—Agreements on cooperation among the USSR State Committee on Radio and Television, Belgian Radio and Television, and radio and television of Belgium's French community were signed here today. They provide for swapping television and radio programmes on major events in the USSR and Belgium, preparing programmes on the life of the two countries' peoples and arranging for television and radio hookups.

The documents were signed by Aleksandr Aksenov, chairman of the USSR State Committee on Radio and Television, Cos Goosens, general director for Belgian Radio and Television, and Robert Stefens, general director of television and radio of Belgium's French community.

Soviet-British Cooperation Session Held
PM201159 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 87 First Edition p 4

[Report by N. Larionova: "Levels of Cooperation"]

[Text] The 14th session of the Soviet-British intergovernmental commission on scientific, technical, trade, and economic cooperation is taking place in Moscow, in the Soviet Information Center at Krasnaya Presnya. The Soviet delegation is headed by USSR Foreign Trade Minister B.I. Aristov, and the British are led by Minister of State for Trade and Industry A. Clark.

Our countries are traditional trading partners. Economic links between the Soviet Union and Britain have gone through various stages of development. Trade turnover has increased lately. This has been helped by the restructuring taking place in the Soviet Union, which is gradually embracing foreign economic relations as well.

British business circles are appreciative of the new Soviet policy, British delegation head A. Clark noted. They are optimistic about development of mutually advantageous trade, and the atmosphere for dialogue has improved.

This is reflected by the warm, businesslike atmosphere at the present intergovernmental commission session. The meetings have examined the state of and prospects for trade, economic, and industrial cooperation, and there has been a discussion of the lists of goods for additional deliveries in 1988-1990, and much else. A protocol will be signed on the results of the discussions.

In their speeches, the session participants noted that expansion of business links between the two countries could play a positive role in overall improvement of Soviet-British relations. The potential for such an expansion exists.

Vorontsov in UK, Discusses Gulf Situation

LD201527 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1436 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] London 20 Oct (TASS)—Yuliy Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister, who is passing through Britain, today had a detailed conversation with D. Mellor, the British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs. During the conversation, the Near East situation was discussed, as was the Persian Gulf situation, which has deteriorated following the anti-Iranian military action taken by the United States.

The Soviet side gave a principled evaluation of the U.S. provocative military actions and stressed the importance of an early end to the Iran-Iraq war, withdrawal from the Gulf of the navies of non-littoral states, and creation of international machinery to ensure freedom of navigation in this region.

The British side voiced support for the U.S. military actions against Iranian targets. At the same time, the minister of state spoke out in support of the interaction of the permanent members of the UN Security Council to seek a political settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict based on the UN Security Council Resolution 598.

Irish Ambassador Arrives in Moscow

PM210959 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 6

[TASS report under the "Official Reports" rubric]

[Text] Charles Victor Whelan, Irish ambassador to the USSR, arrived in Moscow 19 October.

Commentary Scores FRG Policy on Iran

NC101821 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 10 Oct 87

[Igor Sheftunov commentary]

[Text] Last week the Iranian press expressed aversion and rage over the FRG's assistance to the U.S. Administration's acts of aggression in the Persian Gulf. The main reason for this rage was a decision by the FRG government to send its navy to the Mediterranean to replace U.S. and other NATO warships sent to the Persian Gulf from there. The Tehran newspaper described this act by the Bonn government as participation in Washington's anti-Iranian military adventurisms.

As all of us know, the U.S. Armed Forces have resorted to war activities against Iran. They recently downed the Iranian cargo ship *Iran Ajr*, and on Thursday they downed three Iranian patrol boats. They have also attacked other Iranian ships and planes. Washington is preparing for military acts against Iran, on land as well as sea, and the Bonn government is helping its big partner in this. In areas north of Bavaria near [name indistinct] city, former SS barracks are being used by the U.S. Delta Force. FRG's *Stern* reports that these hand-picked men of the U.S. Army are being trained there for an attack on Iran. Seven years ago, one of the Delta Force groups, led by Lieutenant-Colonel Beckwith, used U.S. warships, helicopters, and aircraft sent to the Persian Gulf to attack Iran. The group tried to land near Tabas, with the ultimate intention of bringing a pro-Western government to power. This disgraceful adventurism failed. Now the U.S. Administration is preparing itself to carry out similar acts but on a far larger scale. More than 80 NATO warships have been stationed in the Persian Gulf and U.S. commando units sent there are based on board the aircraft carrier *Ranger*. *Military Review*, the Pentagon's official mouthpiece, points out that the American contingents trained in the FRG can use mobile nuclear weapons stored in Rhineland-Pfalz and Baden-Wuerttemberg depots.

By assisting the U.S. Administration in preparing for a military adventure in the Persian Gulf, the FRG is also participating in inflicting economic pressures on Iran. The Bonn government was among the first to support the economic siege Washington imposed on Iran immediately after the formation of the Islamic Republic. The FRG Foreign Trade Ministry imposed economic and trade sanctions on Iran, pointing out that it would act as a U.S. friend and partner. The Bonn government reacted in the same way to a ban on all imports of Iranian goods that was approved last week by the U.S. Senate. It should be said that various obstacles have been placed in front of the import of Iranian goods into the FRG for a long time. As a result of this policy, Iran faces a great deficit in its trade with the FRG, which exports five times more than what it imports from Iran. This imbalance has negative and ill effects on Iran's financial situation.

Neither Bonn nor Washington hides its objectives for Iran. *Aussenpolitik* magazine, close to FRG Government circles, recently pointed out that Iran should accept a Western model. A few days ago, U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger blatantly and explicitly called for the need to force Iran to follow the West's policy. This joint interest in imposing orders and diktats on Iran allows the U.S. and FRG imperialists to inflict joint political and economic pressures on Iran.

1988 French-Soviet Space Mission Planned
AU210937 Paris AFP in English 0904 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Text] Paris, Oct 21 (AFP)—The second Soviet-French space mission is scheduled for liftoff in November 1988, French and Soviet aerospace officials announced here late Tuesday.

One of the two French astronauts—Jean-Loup Chretien and Michel Tognini—who are currently at Star City, the cosmonaut training centre near Moscow, will orbit the Earth in the Soviet space station Mir in a month-long mission.

The first Franco-Soviet space mission took place in June 1982.

Tolkunov Receives Italian Official Agnelli
PM201151 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under "Official Reports" rubric]

[Text] L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and chairman of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation, met 14 October with U. Agnelli, president of the Italian Committee For Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between East and West and vice-president of the Fiat concern. They discussed questions of multifaceted ties, including economic ties between various European states and the role of public opinion in developing the all-European process.

Delegations Return From Spain, Belgium
PM211147 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Oct 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegations Return"]

[Text] The CPSU delegation headed by M.F. Nenashev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade, which had been in Spain at the invitation of the Spanish Communist Party Central Committee, returned to Moscow from Madrid on 17 October.

The CPSU delegation headed by Y.M. Podolskiy, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Tambov CPSU Obkom, returned to Moscow from Brussels on 17 October.

Soviet-Swiss Consultations Held 16-19 Oct
LD201717 Moscow TASS in English 2143 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 19 TASS—The Soviet-Swiss consultations were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry on October 16-19. A wide range of international problems, as well as questions of bilateral relations came up for discussion during the conversations of USSR First Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Kovalev and USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Chaplin with State Secretary of Switzerland's Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Edouard Brunner. Switzerland's Ambassador to the USSR Francis Pianca took part in the conversation.

Soviet Newsmen in Finland View Glasnost
PM210925 Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 4 Oct 87 p 14

[Unattributed report: "Perestroyka: 'Simply Means Working Better in All Fields'"]

[Text] "In very simple terms, perestroyka is nothing other than this: All work at all levels and in all fields is being done better," *Stroitelnaya Gazeta* deputy chief editor Vladimir Volkov said in Helsinki on Friday [2 October].

At the invitation of the Center Party, Volkov is visiting Finland, along with two other leading Soviet newspapermen, to improve cooperation with Center Party journalists in Finland. He was making an appearance at a press conference together with *Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya* chief editor Aleksandr Baronov and Nikolay Pastukhov of *Selskaya Zhizn*'s international section.

Pastukhov stressed that perestroyka, the Soviet policy of restructuring, is a revolutionary process that is extremely necessary in light of mistakes and stagnation evident even a couple of years ago.

Baranov went into greater detail about what perestroyka means at the meeting with the press. Both production and administration are in need of reform, which to a large extent means decentralization, he said. The functions, which in the past were the monopoly of the Gosplan state planning body, are now carried out by individual ministries, factories, and enterprises. Various republics and regional soviets are able, to a much greater extent, to reach their own decisions on matters of infrastructure. It is important to involve everyone—active initiative in agriculture and in other areas of production is the important thing, Baranov said.

Of course this means an important role for the mass media now that thinking is to be rejuvenated in various fields, and the new openness, glasnost, is reflected in the thousands of letters the newspapers receive from readers every day. An active and critical dialogue is taking place in newspaper columns and, even though open anti-Sovietism is not permitted, extremely direct criticism of state systems does occur, Baranov assured his audience.

The price reform is an important current issue. The aim is to correct the old subsidy system so that the price of an article reflects its production costs. In the case of bread and meat, for example, prices are kept down artificially, but there is a problem affecting thousands of products. In their case, it needs to be established whether local price-setting can be introduced or whether a kind of agreement between consumers and producers might be possible. In addition, people are envisaging a group of products with free prices dictated by supply and demand rather than by decisions and agreements.

Food prices are central to the debate, and while some people take the view that prices should be raised at the same time wages are increased for those people worst hit by prices rises, others think that only certain products of particularly high quality should be given higher prices.

At the present time, it is difficult to say anything about this. The price reform is still being worked on. No decisions have been reached, but the debate is a stormy one, Baranov said.

Finnish Center Party Group Visits USSR

PM211149 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Oct 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the Invitation of the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A delegation of party workers from the Finnish Center Party headed by its secretary S. Kaariainen was in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee from 12 to 17 October.

The delegation had talks at the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work and International Departments and the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, ending its trip in the Azerbaijan SSR, where it familiarized itself with the progress of restructuring and party organizations' work in fulfilling decisions of the 27th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and in accelerating the republic's socio-economic development.

The delegation also familiarized itself with implementation of the Leninist nationalities policy in the USSR.

Greek Ambassador Leaves Moscow

PM211009 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Oct 87 Morning Edition p 6

[TASS report uder the "Official Reports" rubric]

[Text] Ioannis Grigoriadis, Greek ambassador to the USSR, left Moscow on 19 October.

Latin America & Caribbean

Cooperation With Nicaragua Expanded

LD202037 Moscow TASS in English 0656 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] New York October 20 TASS—The Soviet Union points out with concern that the United States continues to practise measures of economic and political compulsion against Nicaragua, says the Soviet Union's letter sent to the United Nations secretary-general in response to his request addressed to the U.N. member nations to set out their opinions on the issue.

The letter emphasizes that the Soviet Union, striving to alleviate the hard economic situation which has developed in that country as a result of the U.S. embargo, has considerably broadened the scope of economic cooperation with Nicaragua, particularly in such fields as the power, mining, and textile industries, agriculture, fisheries, geology, the training of national personnel, and health services.

Chamorro Recants Former Support for Contras

LD200919 Moscow TASS in English 0907 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Managua October 20 TASS—Edgar Chamorro, a former contras leader, has availed himself of the amnesty announced by the Nicaraguan Government and returned home after several years spent in the United States. "I have made a serious blunder, when I associated myself with armed counterrevolutionaries who are the tool of the Central Intelligene Agency. My desire now is to assist the cause of national reconciliation in Nicaragua," he told journalists at the International Managua Airport.

Edgar Chamorro broke off with the terrorist Somoza organization "the Nicaraguan Democratic Front" in 1984 after the United States planted mines in Nicaragua's sea ports and tried to present that criminal action as the doing of contras. The example of free Nicaragua seemed to the Reagan Administration too dangerous to the American rule in developing countries. Therefore the United States is seeking to "punish" it for edification of other states, said the former counterrevolutionary.

Edgard Chamorro denounced statements by the U.S. government's official representative that by kindling warfare against Nicaragua it allegedly "helps establish democracy". "This is a false thesis," he said. "I have long ago realized that the use of rough force is an erroneous way. One cannot help democracy by infringing upon the country's national dignity and sovereignty."

The government of Nicaragua has taken important steps aimed at a peace settlement in the region. The duty of every Nicaraguan now is to do his utmost to promote an end to the bloodshed and attainment of peace, rehabilitation of the country which sustained tremendous losses as a result of the war, economic embargo and other forms of pressure from the United States, stressed Edgar Chamorro.

Dobrynin Receives Venezuelan Party Official

LD202018 Moscow TASS in English 1955 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin met today with prominent political leader of Venezuela, member of the National Leadership of the Democratic Action Party Carlos Andres Perez who arrived in Moscow for a roundtable conference on the subject of "peace, trade and development".

During a conversation that passed in a friendly atmosphere, Anatoliy Dobrynin spoke about the main trends of the reorganization leading to the acceleration of the social and economic development of the country, renewal of Soviet society, broad democratisation in all the areas of its life, the organic link of this process with the foreign policy of the CPSU whose main aim is the transition to a non-violent and nuclear weapons free world.

On his part Carlos Andres Perez declared in support of the Soviet Union's peace initiative, the arrangements reached at the recent talks in Washington that open an opportunity for advance to real reduction of nuclear armaments.

When the present state of international economic relations fraught with upheavals capable of jeopardizing universal peace was discussed, it was noted that it was necessary to switch the resources from military purposes to needs of development, to establish a new economic order, guaranteeing the economic security of all countries.

The participants in the meeting expressed approval for the Guatemalan Agreements and voiced the conviction that the Central American crisis must be settled by political means by Latin American countries themselves without any outside interference.

The sides noted the existence of favourable prospects of the development of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Venezuela under the principles of sovereign equality, mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs. The sides expressed bilateral striving for the continuation of a political dialogue between the CPSU and the Democratic Action Party on the basis of the common interest in safeguarding peace, consolidating international security and ending the arms race.

Political & Social

CPSU CC Plenum Opens; Gorbachev Speaks

LD210741 Moscow TASS in English 0736 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—A regular plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) opened here today.

Matters connected with the carrying out of celebration activities on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and with some current tasks of the reorganization process were brought up for plenum's consideration.

A report to this effect was made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Supreme Soviet Issues Decrees

1986 Budget Report Approved

PM211003 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 87 Second Edition p 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Resolution Approving the Report on the Implementation of the 1986 USSR State Budget"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet decrees:

Approval of the report on the implementation of the 1986 USSR State Budget at revenue totaling R419,547,545,000 and expenditure totaling R417,089,615,000, with revenue exceeding expenditure by R2,457,930,000.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

The Kremlin, Moscow, 20 October 1987.

Law Ratifies Ministry Changes

PM211321 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 87 Second Edition p 2

["USSR Law Ratifying USSR Supreme Soviet Decrees on the Formation and Reorganization of Certain USSR State Administration Bodies and Amending Articles 23, 24, 26, and 27 of the USSR Law 'On the USSR Council of Ministers'"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet decrees:

1. That the following USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees be ratified:

The 20 July 1987 decree "On the Formation of an All-Union USSR Ministry of Agricultural and Tractor Machine Building";

The 20 July 1987 decree "On the Formation of an All-Union USSR Ministry of Heavy, Power, and Transport Machine Building";

The 8 August 1987 decree "On Reorganizing the USSR Central Statistical Administration as the Union-Republican USSR State Committee for Statistics";

The 7 September 1987 decree "On Reorganizing Certain Union-Republic USSR Ministries as All-Union USSR ministries";

The 3 October 1987 decree "On Reorganizing the Union-republic USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy as the All-Union USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy";

The 16 October 1987 decree "On Reorganizing the Union-Republic USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry as the All-Union USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry."

2. In connection with Article 1 of the present law, the 5 July 1978 USSR Law "On the USSR Council of Ministers" (*Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR*, 1978, No 28, p 436; 1979, No 49, p 850; 1981, No 26, p 839; No 47, p 1238; 1984, No 1, p 17; 1985, No 48, p 920 and p 938; 1986, No 26, p 482, No 35, p 730, No 47, p 967; 1987, No 7, p 92) is to be amended as follows:

1) Add to Article 23:

The words "Ministry of Geology" after the words "Ministry of the Gas Industry";

The words "Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry" after the words "Ministry of the Maritime Fleet";

The words "Ministry of Agricultural and Tractor Machine Building" after the words "Ministry of the Radio Industry";

After the words "Ministry of Transport Construction" the words:

"Ministry of Heavy, Power, and Transport Machine Building,

"Ministry of the Coal Industry";

After the words "Ministry of the Chemical Industry" the words:

"Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy,

"Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy";

Remove from Article 23 the words "Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production," "Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building," "Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building," "Ministry of Power Machine Building";

2) Remove from Article 24 the words "Ministry of Geology," "Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry," "Ministry of the Coal Industry," "Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy";

3) To Article 26 after the words "USSR State Committee for Prices" add the words "USSR State Committee for Statistics";

4) From the first part of Article 27 remove the words "and the USSR Central Statistical Administration," wording that part of the article as follows:

"The USSR State Bank is subordinate to the USSR Council of Ministers and its board chairman is accordingly a member of the USSR Government."

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

The Kremlin, Moscow, 20 October 1987.

Law Amends Complaints Procedure

PM211329 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 87 Second Edition p 2

["USSR Law Amending the USSR Law 'On the Procedure for Appeal to the Courts Against Unlawful Actions by Officials Infringing Citizens' Rights'"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet decrees:

That the following amendments be made to the 30 June 1987 USSR Law "On the Procedure for Appeal to the Courts Against Unlawful Actions by Officials Infringing Citizens' Rights" (*Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR*, 1987, No 26, p 388):

1. The first part of Article 4 is to be worded as follows:

"A complaint about an official's actions can at the citizen's discretion be lodged with the court after an appeal against the actions has been addressed to a higher-ranking official or body or directly with the court."

2. The first part of Article 5 is to be worded as follows:

"A complaint may be lodged with the court within a period of 1 month from the day the citizen learns of an official's unlawful actions against him, or from the day his complaint is turned down by a higher-ranking official or body, or from the day the period laid down by the law for the consideration of the complaint expires";

In the second part of Article 5 the word "prescribed" is to be removed from the phrase "prescribed time limit";

The third part of Article 5 is to read as follows:

"A judge's ruling rejecting a complaint may be appealed against and protested in accordance with the rules of civil procedure."

3. Article 9 is to be worded as follows:

"Article 9. Appealing against and protesting a court decision.

"A court decision on a complaint may be appealed against and protested in accordance with the rules of civil procedure.

"The lodging of a protest suspends the execution of the decision."

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

The Kremlin, Moscow, 20 October 1987.

Law on 1988 State Plan

PM211100 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 87 Second Edition p 1

["USSR Law on the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1988"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet resolves:

Article 1. To ratify the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1988 submitted by the USSR Council of Ministers, taking into account the amendments of the Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities Plan and Budget Commissions, Industry Commissions, Energy Commissions, Transport and Communications Commissions, Construction and Construction Materials Industry Commissions, Agro-Industrial Complex Commissions, Science and Technology Commissions, Consumer Goods and Services to the Population Commissions, Housing and Municipal Services Commissions, Foreign Affairs Commissions, Health and Social Security Commissions, Public Education and Culture Commissions, Maternity, Child Development, and the Work and Life of Women Commissions, Youth Affairs Commissions, and Nature Conservation and Rational Utilization of Natural Resources Commissions.

Article 2. To establish the following main indicators of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1988:

	(increase as percentage of 1987 plan)
National income produced	4.3
Real per capita income	2.7
Social consumption funds	6.5
Labor productivity:	
in industry	4.5
in construction	4
in railroad transport	7.5
Profit from the economic activity of enterprises (associations) and organizations	7.9
Retail trade turnover in state and cooperative trade—total	2.6
Volume of sales of paid services to the population	11.9
Capital investments in the national economy from all sources of finance	3.6

Putting into practice the strong social policy elaborated by the 27th CPSU Congress, the implementation on a centralized basis of measures to improve the people's living standard is to be ensured:

The phased rise in wages for health and social security workers is to continue;

The introduction of new salaries and wage rates for workers in cultural sectors is to begin;

Regional coefficients are to be introduced on the wages of workers and employees for whom they are not already established in the northern rayons of Kirov Oblast and in nonproduction sectors in the northern and eastern regions of the Kazakh SSR;

Norms for the expenditure of funds on patient nutrition and the purchase of medical supplies and dressings in health care institutions are to be increased;

Free issuing of medical supplies is to be introduced for outpatient treatment of children up to the age of 3 and bronchial asthma patients, as well as concessionary issuing of medical supplies, with a payment of 50 percent of cost, for first and second category disabled persons whose disability resulted from an injury at work or occupational or general disease;

Norms for the expenditure of funds on the purchase of household equipment and mass cultural work are to be increased for children's homes and boarding schools of all types.

The sum of R4.1 billion is to be channeled from the USSR State Budget into the implementation of new centralized measures and measures begun in 1987 to improve the people's living standard.

The extinguishing of state internal loans is to continue.

On the basis of the wide utilization of the opportunities offered by the new economic management conditions, there is to be a further increase in wage rates and salaries for workers in production sectors of the national economy out of the funds earned by the enterprises.

Funds and resources are to be allocated as a priority to resolving the housing problem and strengthening the health, improving the educational and cultural standard, and satisfying the spiritual requirements of Soviet people.

With a view to developing the material and technical base of the social sphere, the following facilities are to be commissioned in 1988 out of all sources of finance: housing with a total area of 128.9 million square meters, preschool institutions with 966,000 places, children's homes with 9,100 places, general educational schools with 1,668,500 places, boarding schools for orphans and children left without parental care with 4,000 places, hospitals with 77,800 beds, and outpatient clinics for 197,900 consultations per shift.

Article 3. The USSR Council of Ministers, union republic Councils of Ministers, and USSR ministries, state committees, and departments, guided by the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee January and June (1987) Plenums, the Basic Guidelines for a Radical Restructuring of Economic Management approved by the June plenum, the decisions of the 7th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 11th convocation, and the USSR Law "On the State Enterprise (Association)," are to ensure, in the course of implementation of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1988, the steady implementation of the party's economic strategy, the intensification of social production and enhancement of its efficiency, and the consistent, stage-by-stage creation of an integrated, efficient, and flexible system of economic management founded first and foremost on the principles of full economic accountability, self-capitalization, and self-financing and the strengthening of democratic principles in the activity of labor collectives and of their responsibility for the attainment of high end results in production and social development.

There is to be constant monitoring of the implementation of the USSR Law "On the State Enterprise (Association)" and strict observance of the rights granted to enterprises. Democratic principles are to be strengthened in every way in the management of processes of society's economic and social development. Real prerequisites are to be created for the realization of the personal interest of all working people in increasing production efficiency, and the collective contract and other progressive forms of labor organization and incentives are to be actively introduced. Economic competition between enterprises is to be developed, as a new form of socialist rivalry.

The labor collectives' efforts are to be focused on resolving the tasks of accelerating scientific and technical progress, ensuring the integration of science and production, and introducing into the national economy machinery and technology which is up to present-day requirements for society's development. A line of resource-saving and the all-around saving of raw materials, semifinished materials, fuel, energy, agricultural produce, and all natural resources is to be pursued actively.

Article 4. Soviets of people's deputies, guided by the instructions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum on the restructuring of territorial management in the new economic management conditions, are to increase the effectiveness of leadership of the territories' development. Wider use is to be made of the rights granted to them for the comprehensive development of economic, social, and nature conservation tasks, the bringing into play of all reserves for accelerating socioeconomic development, and the expansion of the construction of housing and sociocultural facilities and, taking into account the population's demand, the production of industrial and food consumer goods and of the volume of paid services by enterprises and organizations located on the territory under their jurisdiction. The development of cooperative forms and individual labor activity by citizens is to be promoted in every way.

Article 5. The USSR Council of Ministers is instructed to examine the proposals and observations set forth in the conclusion of the Plan and Budget and other standing commissions of the Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities on the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1988, and also the proposals and observations put forward by deputies at sessions of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers, and to take the appropriate decisions on them.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Moscow, Kremlin. 20 October 1987.

Officials Address Supreme Soviet

Gostev Budget Report

PM200901 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Oct 86 First Edition pp 3, 4

["On the USSR State Budget for 1988 and on the Implementation of the Budget During 1986; Report by Deputy B.I. Gostev, USSR Minister of Finance"—PRAVDA headline; report was delivered at 19 October joint session of USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities; boldface passages as published]

[Text] Esteemed comrade deputies! On behalf of the USSR Council of Ministers, allow me to report to you the draft USSR State Budget for 1988, approved by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

The present USSR Supreme Soviet session is taking place on the eve of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution—an event of worldwide historic significance which opened up a new era in mankind's development.

Over the past years our country has turned into a mighty socialist power. A colossal production and scientific-technical potential has been created and the most profound social transformations have been effected. Finances have changed radically. They have become an important means of implementing the party's economic policy.

The first Soviet budget was elaborated in 1918 and constituted R1.6 billion in revenue, three-fourths of which were taxes and duties.

The boosting of all sectors of the national economy and of science and culture and the strengthening of the defense capability required vast financial resources. The leading role in their mobilization was played by the budget. Now it exceeds R400 billion per year. Nine-tenths of the revenue is created in the socialist economy.

The strategic course of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and 27th party congress of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development laid the foundation for genuinely revolutionary changes. "At the present stage," Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has noted, "the Soviet people and the party, guided by Lenin's teaching and creatively developing it, are continuing the cause of the revolution through restructuring and the renewal of all spheres of society's life."

The guidelines of the CPSU Central Committee January and June (1987) Plenums on the radical reform of the management of the economy are being put into practice. Part and parcel of it is the restructuring of the finance and credit mechanism, geared to more active utilization of socialist commodity-money relations, full economic accountability [khozyaystvenny raschet], and the optimal combination of the interests of the state, labor collectives, and every working person.

In the current year the basic measures on the development of material production and the social sphere are financed out of the budget.

At the same time, in the course of its implementation it was necessary to adopt a more economical approach to expenditure on current needs. Machine building and the petrochemical and light industries have failed to meet profit targets. The turnover tax will produce less than planned. Some republics—the RSFSR, Georgia, and Azerbaijan—and a number of local soviets are failing to ensure fulfillment of their budgets. In some sectors of the national economy production costs have been slow to fall, their own circulating capital has been insufficient, and nonpayment has attained considerable dimensions.

All this demands of USSR ministries and departments and union republican councils of ministers the adoption of effective measures to improve the standard of economic activity and make absolutely sure that this year's accumulations plan and financial pledges are fulfilled.

Basic Indicators and Features of the State Budget for 1988 [subhead]

Comrade deputies! The USSR State Budget for 1988 was elaborated on the basis of a fundamentally new financial policy and the provisions of the Law on the State Enterprise and creates the essential conditions for the extensive introduction of complete economic accountability and self-financing. The budget amounts to R443.5 billion in terms of revenue and expenditure.

The increase in revenue is governed by socialist accumulations. Profit in the national economy, including the relevant part of trade revenue, will be R215.3 billion and will increase by 7.9 %.

Qualitative changes are taking place in the structure of budget revenue.

In the new conditions of economic activity resources are redistributed in favor of enterprises. More than R100 billion will remain at their disposal for the self-financing of production and social development.

A fundamental novelty is the fact that budget revenue is formed to a decisive extent on the basis of long-term economic normatives. Mutual relations with the enterprises of 27 industrial ministries, construction, transport and a number of other sectors are constructed in that way.

Resource payments will play a bigger role. They will reach R45.7 billion. For enterprises transferred to full economic accountability and self-financing their proportion will amount to 60 %. As well as payment for production capital, payment for manpower is introduced for the first time. In the long term these types of payments will be the leading ones, which will increase the cost-cutting thrust of the financial mechanism.

The introduction of new principles for forming revenue will not only increase enterprises' stake in the end results, but will strengthen the budget as well. It becomes more closely linked to the economy.

One feature of the budget is the further reduction in the proportion of turnover tax. It is set at a sum of R89 billion, which is R7.4 billion below the plan for the current year. Income is built on a healthier footing—revenue from the sale of alcoholic beverages is reduced by R11.5 billion. At the same time a part is also played by the fact that the measures being taken by union republics, ministries, and enterprises to seek out additional commodity resources which are in demand among the population and provide income for the state are still inadequate.

Revenue from foreign trade is also reduced, which is due to the unfavorable situation with world prices. Moreover work to overcome the tendency for our exports to be oriented toward raw materials by increasing the proportion of output from processing sectors in our exports is procceeding only slowly.

As for payments by the population, the proportion of the budget which they account for is virtually unchanged. In connection with the growth in labor remuneration, they will total R36.4 billion. Corresponding tax revenue from individual labor activity and also from cooperatives is provided for. The necessary financial conditions have been created for their development.

The structure of State Budget expenditure is fundamentally changed.

It is characterized by the following figures:

	billion rubles, 1988	as percentage of total sum	
		1988 (projected)	1987 (approved)
National Economy	241.0	54.3	56.8
Sociocultural measures	153.5	34.6	32.3
Defense	20.2	4.6	4.6
State administration	2.99	0.7	0.7

In sectors of the material sphere there is a considerable reduction in the unjustified flow of redistributed financial resources through the budget, and nonrepayable finance is reduced. Budget expenditure on capital investments, circulating capital, and other costs is reduced by more than R14 billion.

At the same time there is an increase in enterprises' own financial sources, which will account for one-half of all expenditure on the development of the national economy. Economic incentive funds are increased significantly: for the development of production, science, and technology—R69.8 billion, and for social development—R17.6 billion. It is important for enterprises to use these substantial monetary resources thriftily, on the basis of the principles of full economic accountability and self-financing.

The role of bank credit is increased. The total sum of credit investments by the end of 1988 will be more than R400 billion. It is necessary to increase the provision of credits, accelerate their circulation, and extinguish loans on time.

The budget's social thrust is intensified. There is a substantial increase in expenditure on social needs, which is aimed at improving our economy and should significantly step up the role of the human factor in social production.

Expenditure on housing construction, consumer goods production, and the development of trade, the service sphere, and other requirements of the population will total R402 billion from all sources. That is R22 billion more than in the current year. Two-thirds of this sum is financed from the budget, the remainder from funds earned by enterprises and from bank credits.

Expenditure on environmental conservation and the normalization of the ecological situation is increased. In all, R10.5 billion is allocated for these purposes.

The volume of state subsidies for meeting the requirements of the national economy and the population is increased. They will total more than R90 billion, or 20 % of budget expenditure.

The budget provides for measures connected with the organization of foreign economic activity in the new economic management conditions.

Plans allow for resources to deepen socialist economic integration and expand the USSR's trade and economic cooperation with the developing countries, and also with the developed capitalist states.

At the recent 43d extraordinary CEMA session, ways of restructuring the mechanism of the countries' cooperation, including currency and financial instruments, were outlined. It is planned to implement a range of measures to introduce mutual convertibility of national currencies and the convertible ruble in settlements in the sphere of direct ties and joint production and scientific and technical activity.

Currency funds amounting to more than R3 billion are being set up at a number of ministries, departments, and enterprises in order to activate foreign economic relations. An incentive effect should be exerted on exports and on reducing irrational imports by differentiated currency coefficients, which will influence the results of the economic activity of producers of export goods.

Additional measures were recently adopted to improve the mechanism of foreign economic activity. The principle of paying your own way in currency [valyutnaya samookupayemost] will be implemented consistently. The procedure for the utilization of currency funds is being simplified and the conditions for taxation on joint enterprises and credit services for export deliveries are being improved.

It is necessary to further increase the effectiveness of foreign economic activity at all levels, use currency resources rationally, and strengthen state currency and financial discipline.

The foreign policy strategy of the Communist Party and Soviet state is centered on the preservation of peace and the creation of a reliable system of universal security. As is known, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have put forward an initiative to put an end to the excessive growth of military budgets today. This would made it possible to reduce military spending and release vast resources for the socioeconomic development of all countries. State Budget expenditure on the maintenance of USSR Armed Forces personnel, the payment of pensions, material and technical supplies, military construction, and other costs remain at the current year's level—R20.2 billion.

Those, comrades, are the general characteristics and features of the formation of the USSR State Budget for 1988. In the new economic management conditions state income will increase, the necessary financial base will be created for socioeconomic development, and there will be major structural changes in connection with the expansion of activity by enterprises and associations on the basis of the principles of full economic accountability and self-financing.

At the same time a number of questions of financial provision are to be resolved in conjunction with ministries, union republic councils of ministers, and local soviets in the course of the fulfillment of the plan and budget.

Financial Provision for the Development of Material Production [main subhead]

Comrade deputies! Allow me to move on to the finances of the most important national economic complexes.

In 1988 financial resources for further boosting sectors of material production are provided for. From all sources, R487.9 billion are allocated for these purposes.

Scientific and technical progress is becoming an increasingly effective factor in national economic development. The volume of finance for science will total R32.9 billion. The budget allocates R17.8 billion, or an increase of 8.2 percent, for fundamental research, the resolution of intersector scientific and technical problems, and other very important measures in science and technology.

Wide opportunities for increasing the effectiveness of scientific research and ensuring the rapid introduction of its results into production are opened up by the switching of sector science to full economic accountability. The mechanism of budget finance is to be changed substantially. Appropriations will be allocated increasingly for specific research, and not for the general upkeep of scientific organizations. These measures are aimed at linking the scientific workers' labor remuneration more closely with the real output.

Financing Industry [subhead]

Major resources are being channeled into industry—the basis of the structural restructuring and intensification of the economy. In 1988 R229.7 billion is being allocated to finance industry, which is 3.7 percent more than the plan for the current year.

Around one-third of the investments—R66.7 billion—is intended for the fuel and energy complex, which will make it possible to ensure the stable functioning of the entire national economy. Some R24 billion is allocated for the development of the machine building complex. This creates the conditions for the planned retooling of all sectors of the national economy. The chemical and timber complex is being allocated R24 billion to implement the chemicalization program and increase production of progressive structural materials. Considerable resources—R16.2 billion—are earmarked for the metallurgical complex to expand the production primarily of the most efficient types of metal products.

Profit—the main source of industry's financial resources—will total R131.5 billion and increase by more than 10 percent. Furthermore, more than 50 percent of the increase in profit is to be achieved through reduced prime costs, which is almost double the figure in the 11th 5-Year Plan.

In a number of industrial sectors the level of expenditure at newly commissioned production capacities remains high. A survey of a large number of industrial enterprises has revealed that billions of rubles of profit were lost last year because projected prime costs were exceeded. These losses are highest in the chemical and timber and the metallurgical complex.

In 1988 the overwhelming part of industry will switch to full economic accountability and self-financing. Experience has confirmed that the normative system of distribution of profit is an effective means of influencing production efficiency. The differentiation of enterprises in terms of financial prosperity according to the results achieved is increasing. Precisely 130 enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry overfulfilled the profit plan during the first 6 months and paid an additional R40 million into their funds, while 86 enterprises did not meet the accumulations targets and failed to obtain around R150 million for their development. The financial mechanism in this case acted as an incentive for those who worked well and penalized the labor collectives where there were serious omissions. This fully accords with the socialist principle of distribution according to labor. In the new management conditions the question "How much has been produced and of what quality?" is inseparable from the question "At what price and what cost has this been achieved?"

It must be emphasized that enterprises' financial results will be increasingly determined by the standard of their work to improve output quality. The speed of output sales, the timeliness of settlements, and ultimately also the growth of accumulations depend on this. State acceptance has brought the problem of quality into sharp focus. Many enterprises now have to pay with their own economically accountable revenue for any failure to observe standards and other deviations. The price of this is illustrated in the case of the machine building complex. The elimination of defects caused a 5-6 percent increase in output labor-intensiveness, which was one of the reasons for the failure to fulfill the profit plan by more that R360 million.

For a long time profitability in industry declined. With the recent increased focus on production costs and profit, the situation has begun to improve in most sectors. It is important to consolidate this trend.

There are great profit growth reserves in the better utilization of production capital and the improvement of labor productivity. The USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Industry has become appreciably more active in this direction. This year alone it has released more than 90,000 workers and reorganized 60 plants which were planned to make a loss. The mobilization of internal reserves has made it possible to switch more than 90 percent of workers and employees in the sector over to new labor remuneration conditions. In a relatively short period of time a number of problems which had long burdened sector finances have been resolved. In the 1st 8 months of this year R530 million in profit has been earned over and above the plan.

The prime task for all industrial sectors is to step up their contribution to consumer goods production and more fully meet the population's growing effective demand. This is a problem of great social importance. A special role in its resolution is played by light industry, which accounts for almost half of all the nonfood goods produced in the country. It creates 1 out of every 10 rubles of national economic accumulations. However, its contribution could be more significant. To this end it is necessary to bring the sector's technical base into line with modern demands and to considerably improve the standard of economic management.

The new self-financing mechanism in light industry is geared precisely to this. In 1988 the sector will have at its disposal financial resources in excess of R11 billion, of which around R7 billion will be its own funds.

Enterprises in other industrial sectors are becoming more and more extensively involved in the production of goods and services for the population. They must devote particular attention to the financial side of production. In many cases expenditure is reduced only slowly, and a number of goods are only marginally profitable or even make a loss. For instance, last year enterprises subordinate to union republic local industry ministries alone manufactured items that made a loss of R437 million.

In order to expand consumer goods production it is necessary to make more active use of credit resources, exploiting the preferential mechanism for paying off credit via turnover tax. Yet many heavy industry and machine building enterprises do not use this economic lever. In the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, and the USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building only 20 kopeks' worth of consumer goods are produced per ruble of the wages fund, which is considerably lower than the average for machine building.

Financing the Agro-Industrial Complex [subhead]

One of the central points in the budget is the financing of agro-industrial complex development with a view to solving the food problem. Next year R173.2 billion—or over one-third of all investment in the economy—will be channeled into the complex. Farms' own funds will amount to R71.7 billion, and their budget appropriations and bank credits to R101.5 billion.

The expansion of production and the improvement of the quality of food products—primarily by reducing losses at all stages of the production, transportation, processing, and storage of agricultural output—is of particular importance under the conditions of an intensive economy. It is planned to channel more than R7 billion into strengthening the material and technical base of processing sectors in 1988.

The budget earmarks R73.4 billion in state subsidies to make up the difference between the purchase and the retail prices of agricultural output and to ensure deliveries of equipment and mineral fertilizers on preferential terms.

As a result of the buildup of production potential and the development of economically accountable relations improvements have emerged in the strengthening of the financial position of the agro-industrial complex. More and more kolkhozes ane sovkhozes are embarking on the path of profitable working, are running matters thriftily, and are using land and equipment efficiently. Last year the profits plan was overfulfilled by R1 billion. For the first time in many years a reduction in the prime cost of agricultural output was achieved.

Agro-industrial complex profits in 1988 are planned at R49.6 billion, which is R4.3 billion more than this year. Two-thirds of this will remain at the disposal of enterprises and organizations for the expansion of production and the provision of material incentives. Hence it is important to ensure fulfillment of the profit targets. It is also necessary to travel further down the road of improving the financial situation. The profitability of one-third of kolkhozes and sovkhozes is still less than 10 %, while 13 % of kolkhozes and sovkhozes are outright lossmakers.

In these conditions the state is compelled to provide sizable financial assistance to such farms. Over R14 billion is earmarked for them in the 1988 budget.

However, these funds are not everywhere used rationally. There are many instances where markups on purchase prices are channeled into paying wages and covering losses resulting from inefficient management. Sometimes they are unjustifiably paid to highly profitable farms. Such instances have been revealed in Kalinin, Penza, and Grodno Oblasts.

A consumerist, freeloading approach toward credit has become widely established. Credit is often used to increase pay without increasing real output. For instance, in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan most farms have completely lost their own circulating capital and carry out their production activity by means of credits. Attitudes toward credit should be radically changed. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes that are working well now have real opportunities to start paying off rescheduled bank loans. Great tasks in improving credit relations and strengthening payment discipline in the agro-industrial complex face the Agroprombank [bank for financing the agro-industrial complex].

Enterprises and organizations in the agro-industrial complex are switching to the new economic management methods in 1988-1989. Measures to transfer the Estonian State Agro-Industrial Committee to full economic accountability and self-financing have already been approved. It is necessary to introduce a financial mechanism that will ensure unity of interests between kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and processing enterprises in achieving high end results. A major economic transformation has to be implemented, and it is necessary to prepare for it carefully and to improve within a short period the financial condition of the agro-industrial complex via better production and labor organization and the expansion of the collective and family contract.

The subsidiary farms of enterprises, organizations, and the population are being increasingly developed. They have become a substantial help in supplying workers and employees with meat, milk, and other agricultural produce. At the same time many of them operate at a loss and with poor labor productivity. Enterprise and organization leaders must pay more attention to subsidiary farms' economic indicators and increase their profitability.

Financing Construction [subhead]

The country's economic and social development largely depends on the efficiency of the construction complex.

Appropriations from the budget, enterprises' own funds, and bank credits totaling R178.9 billion are being channeled into financing state capital investments in 1988.

In the new conditions budget funds will be largely used to finance major production construction projects of national economic significance, and also to construct housing, hospitals, children's establishments, and other soviet social projects. Some R71.2 billion are being earmarked for these purposes.

There are changes in the structure of the financing of capital investments: The proportion of enterprises' own resources is increasing to 60 percent. These economically accountable funds are now intended for the retooling and reconstruction of existing production facilities, and enterprises bear full responsibility for expanded reproduction. This is the main point of the restructuring of investment policy.

Ministries and economic organizations should pay more attention to strengthening financial discipline in construction and should create normal conditions for the commissioning of fixed capital—a most important material precondition for the growth of national income.

They must display persistence and concern for the uninterrupted provision of finance for construction projects and timely payment for construction and installation work and deliveries of equipment and materials.

Proper order has still not been imposed in this respect. Many ministries and enterprises are tardy in contributing their own resources in the form of amortization, profits, and funds for purposes of financing. As a result the financial situation in construction is straightening out only slowly and indebtedness reached almost R1.5 billion in the 1st 6 months.

The strengthening of the economy and finances of construction organizations is an urgent task. Around one-fifth of these organizations carry out in 1 year R1 million or less work and, as a rule, are only marginally profitable. It is necessary to boost economic management efficiency, improve the situation, and—where necessary—amalgamate or eliminate loss-making organizations.

The strict observance of construction schedules and the stepping up of the concentration of resources at projects scheduled for commissioning are an indispensable condition for improving the profitability of construction production. In this area, as in all the national economy, the turnover of funds must be accelerated and the return on every ruble improved.

According to USSR State Committee for Statistics figures, construction schedules are more than twice the normatives. This leads to large output losses and worsens construction organizations' financial position. It produces excessive overhead expenses. The disruption of construction schedules is one of the reasons why above-normative stocks of equipment are amassed at construction sites. As of 1 July this year these had reached R5.3 billion, of which almost half was imported equipment. More than R8 billion in resources excluded from economic circulation are diverted into above-normative unfinished construction.

USSR ministries and departments and union republic councils of ministers are instructed to prepare construction production in good time for working in 1988 under conditions of complete economic accountability and self-financing.

For their part bank and finance organs must promote the strengthening of the capital construction economy and improve the forms and methods of financial and credit influence.

Financing Transportation and Communications [subhead]

The effectiveness of the functioning of the country's unified national economic complex is determined to a considerable extent by the coordinated work of transportation and communications.

In 1988 virtually all types of transportation and communications are to switch to complete economic accountability and self-financing, which determines substantial changes in their relationship with the budget. Of the R37.9 billion earmarked for the development of this complex, around 80 percent is made up of its own resources.

Some R2.7 billion is allocated for developing communications.

The enterprises of the USSR Ministry of the Maritime Fleet that have been switched to complete economic accountability are working stably. Transport costs are falling and the profits plan and budget commitments are being fulfilled.

Some R5.3 billion in profit should be earned in rail transport in 1988, around half of which is to be channeled into production and social needs. Attention to questions of the safe operation of rolling stock has been stepped up, and R3.8 billion is being allocated for the capital repair of rail transport fixed capital.

Financial Support for Social Development [main subhead]

Comrade deputies! The priority development of the social sphere and the increasingly full satisfaction of Soviet people's need for good working and living conditions was a most important starting point in shaping the budget.

Next year's budget envisages the financing of measures to boost Soviet people's prosperity. Some R4.1 billion, which is higher than the 5-year plan, is being channeled into new centralized measures alone. State bonds issued by subscription among the population will continue to be redeemed.

Some R33.9 billion from all sources of financing, or R1.2 billion more than this year, is to be allocated for housing construction. Over 70 percent of this spending will be covered by the budget. Some R6.5 billion in state subsidies is to be allocated for housing maintenance and repair.

Expenditure on Sociocultural Measures [subhead]

One fundamental feature of the budget is the preferential growth of expenditure on sociocultural needs. Some R153.5 billion is stipulated for these purposes. That is 9.1 percent more than in the current year, and more than twice the rate of growth of national income. The leftover principle in financing the social sphere is thereby overcome.

Budget expenditure for individual types of sociocultural measures is:

	Billion rubles		
	1987 (approved)	1988 (draft)	Percentage growth
Public education, science, and culture	55.1	61.3	111.2
Health care and physical culture	19.1	21.7	113.3
State social insurance and social security	66.4	70.5	106.2

Next year R61.3 billion from the budget is channeled into the continuation of large-scale measures to strengthen the material base of general and vocational education, the reform of higher and secondary specialized education, and the further development of science and culture.

Particular attention is paid to improving the education and training of orphans and children left without parental care, for which R420 million is allocated.

In order to create the necessary conditions for enterprises to go over to two- and three-shift work, provision is made for measures to improve the work of preschool and medical institutions and extended-day groups at schools. The sum of R110 million is appropriated for this.

An object of constant concern is the radical improvement of the quality of medical services. The draft Basic Guidelines for the Development of Health Care for the Population and the Restructuring of the Health Service have been submitted for nationwide discussion.

Practical steps are to be taken in 1988: Norms for patient nutrition and the acquisition of medical supplies and dressings are increased and the free and concessionary issuing of drugs is extended. Additional state expenditure on this will total R1.2 billion. In all, R21.7 billion will be spent on health care and physical culture, which is 13.3 percent more than in the current year.

The social security and social insurance system is aimed at steadily increasing Soviet people's well-being. Appropriations for these purposes total R70.5 billion. More than four-fifths of the expenditure accumulates in the state social insurance budget, which is entirely at the disposal of the trade unions.

In 1988 pensions will be paid to 59 million people out of budget funds and other sources. There is to be a substantial increase in state expenditure on the provision of services at home for elderly people needing care. Many questions of improving the material position of pensioners are to be resolved in the draft new law on state pension provision for working people, now in preparation.

USSR ministries and departments, union republic councils of ministers, and soviets of people's deputies must ensure rational expenditure of the vast appropriations allocated by the state for sociocultural development. They must not simply be "assimilated," they must be channeled first and foremost into those measures which produce the maximum social return. As yet, funds are not used efficiently everywhere at local level.

In a number of union republics plans for the construction and development of the network in the social sphere are not being fulfilled. In some places costly medical equipment, some of it imported, lies idle for years on end. Checks have uncovered more than 6,000 items of such equipment, worth nearly R20 million.

From next year, methods of economic incentives for quality of work and thrifty utilization of financial resources are being introduced into the practice of sociocultural institutions. The resources saved will remain at the collectives' disposal. Other economic accountability principles will also be developed in the activity of enterprises in the social sphere.

In view of the expansion of the rights of soviets of people's deputies it is important to ensure coordination of the utilization of local buoget resources and enterprises' funds for the comprehensive development of the regions' social infrastructure.

Financing Trade and Services [subhead]

Trade has gone over to the new economic management conditions and provides for its own requirements for production and social development mainly out of its own resources. In 1988 this sector will have at its disposal financial resources of the order of R5.4 billion, or R1.1 billion more than in the current year.

It is planned that the Tsentrosoyuz will spend R2.0 billion of its own resources on expanding cooperative trade. Moreover, financial assistance amounting to R0.4 billion will be granted from the budget to stringthen the material base of cooperative trade.

With a view to creating the necessary economic accountability conditions, trade is granted a subsidy of R1.1 billion for the sale of fruit and vegetable produce, which still makes a loss.

In the current year the trade turnover plan is not being fulfilled and the population's demand for a number of goods is not fully satisfied. In this situation it is necessary sharply to step up the influence of trade on the industry that produces consumer goods.

The results that can be achieved in this way are clear from Belorussia's example. In the republic, in the 1st 9 months of this year the growth in retail trade turnover (not counting sales of alcoholic beverages) totaled 7.3 percent. This was made possible because the republic's enterprises seek out additional resources for the production of goods. Their production increased by 8 percent. Light industry renewed 40 percent of the range. The production of particularly fashionable goods will increase more than sevenfold in 2 years.

The Muscovites are doing much to expand the production of goods and their sale to the population. Collaboration between trade and industry is well organized in Leningrad, Estonia, and Lithuania. Here too, rather than seeking reasons to explain away nonfulfillment of the retail trade turnover plan, they find ways to resolve the tasks facing them.

The line of accelerated development of paid services to the population is implemented in the budget. Financial resources for consumer services will total R2.1 billion, an increase of 17.4 percent.

Institutions of the State Insurance Main Administration are called upon to make a great contribution to improving services to the population. Full economic accountability is being introduced in their activity. Payments of insurance sums to the population will exceed R8 billion.

From next year a new form of service will be introduced—voluntary insurance for an additional pension for workers, employees, and kolkhoz members. This is an important social measure for improving the living conditions of labor veterans. It is advantageous to the population, since one-half of the insurance fund resources will come from the State Budget.

Work should also be stepped up on the accumulation of monetary resources and the expansion on this basis of the sphere of credits to the population for consumer and production purposes. As a result savings will be returned to the population not only in the form of money, but also in the form of additional material benefits. Here there is great scope for activity by the newly formed Bank for Labor Savings and Credits to the Population.

State Budgets of the Union Republics [main subhead]

Comrade deputies! The state budgets of the union republics for 1988 are formed in accordance with the requirements of the new financial mechanism, and ensure the necessary resources for the comprehensive development of productive forces and the further growth of the material and cultural living standard of all our country's nations and ethnic groups.

The total volume of income and expenditure in the union republics' budgets is set at R200.5 billion, which is R6.6 billion more than the current year's plan. Their proportion in the State Budget is increased.

In connection with the intensification of the social orientation of the plan and budget, in the union republics there will be a substantial increase in spending on the financing of public education, health care, and the population's other needs. The proportion of expenditure on sociocultural measures is increased to 48.9 percent of the republican budgets, as against 45.9 percent in the current year. Provision is made for a subsidy from the union budget to finance the planned expenditure in five republics.

Deputies have at their disposal detailed information regarding the main income and expenditure indicators for the union republics.

An important role is assigned to improving regional finances in resolving the complex of tasks concerning the restructuring of the financial mechanism.

The essence of the changes that are being carried out here lies primarily in the fact that the financial base of the soviets is being more fully linked with the results of the economic activity of the enterprises located on their territory. The practice whereby enterprises under all-union jurisdiction pay some of their profits into local budgets is being expanded. This principle will operate in 1988 at the enterprises of the 26 ministries that have switched to full economic accountability and self-financing. In the future it is also planned to transfer to local budgets some of the payment for manpower and natural resources.

As of next year a direct link is being established between the growth of regional budget revenues and the turnover tax received on consumer goods production. Over 80 percent of the turnover tax will be directly paid into the budget by the enterprises producing the output. This will enhance industry's responsibility for and local soviets' interest in expanding the range and improving the quality of output. Payments of turnover tax into local budgets according to the fulfillment of the retail trade turnover plan are being introduced for the same purpose.

The switch to a fundamentally new system of relations between union republics' and local soviets' budgets and superior budgets will be of special significance for their stability and firmness.

As from 1989, with a view to enhancing the responsibility of republican and local organs in mobilizing financial resources on the territories under their jurisdiction and heightening their interest in increasing the state's revenue, it is planned to form the budgets in question from their own allotted sources of revenue, payments from the profits of enterprises under higher jurisdiction, and payments from statewide revenues and taxes on the basis of long-term stable normatives.

The improvement of territorial budget planning will require of the soviets new approaches toward problems of the financial support of regions. The preconditions are essentially being created for territorial economic accountability, which is incompatible with freeloading. The needs of production and social development must be more closely linked to financial potential and must depend directly on the end results of economic activity at local level.

The USSR Council of Ministers also submits for approval the report on the implementation of the USSR State Budget for 1986. The deputies have the detailed figures.

Fulfilling the Budget, Improving Finances [main subhead]

Comrade deputies! The positive changes under way in our society and the mounting process of democratization are exerting an increasingly active influence on the sphere of finances.

The USSR State Budget, in whose formulation ministries, economic organs, the soviets, and labor collectives participated extensively, is geared to financial transformations at all levels of management. They are founded on the consistent introduction of a qualitatively new financial mechanism based on the principles of full economic accountability and self-financing. The course of transforming finances into an effective instrument of the planned managemen of the economy and restructuring financial and credit levers on the basis of long-term economic normatives is being implemented in the budget.

The implementation of these measures will make it possible to strengthen economic accountability relations and to ensure in the national economy genuine financial control over the end results of production and exchange.

At the same time it has not been possible to fully resolve everything in the budget. Financial strain persists, a fact in which the burden of financial problems inherited from the past plays its part.

Once the budget is approved by the USSR Supreme Soviet efficient organization of its implementation will be the main task. In order to improve the current financial status of every economic organization and every labor collective it is necessary to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of the revenues envisaged for 1988 and to utilize financial resources as efficiently as possible.

The special financial recovery [ozdorovleniye] program that is being formulated in accordance with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum is designed to radically improve the financial situation. Central economic organs, USSR ministries and departments, and union republic councils of ministers are preparing relevant proposals. Enterprises, associations, and republican and local organs must also be actively mobilized. After all, it is a question of creating everywhere a reliable financial base for accelerating production and social development and introducing full economic accountability. Of course, what will have the decisive say here is skillful economic management and the full utilization of the opportunities granted to labor collectives by the Law on the Enterprise.

Improvements have emerged in finances, but they have still not acquired a stable character. Some economic leaders have taken a passive, wait-and-see attitude and out of inertia continue to ask the state for money instead of earning it. The real functioning of full economic accountability is thereby being curbed.

The situation urgently demands that this attitude to finances be changed. The improvement of finances means strengthening not only the budget but also the finances of enterprises, sectors, and regions. It would seem necessary to begin with what is simplest—decisively improving the fulfillment of financial plans and commitments to the state.

This applies primarily to profits, which are increasingly becoming not only one of the main criteria for assessing the results of economic activity but also in practice the main source of the production and social development of labor collectives. However, many enterprises have still not abandoned their freeloading ways and essentially are living at the expense of others. In industry and construction one enterprise in four is failing to fulfill the profits plan. For that reason R5 billion have been lost since the beginning of this year.

The financial shortcomings ave had a particularly adverse effect on the work of enterprises which have switched to full economic accountability and self-financing. The practice which used to prevail of the redistribution of resources between enterprises working well and those working badly is now a thing of the past. Now each collective is wholly responsible for its own work results and financial state. This can be seen from the example of the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems. This year two-thirds of this sector's enterprises have been working successfully and have produced R40 million profit above the plan. At the same time the remaining enterprises were R93 million below target. As a result both they and the sector as a whole have found themselves in a difficult financial position.

Full economic accountability means that enterprises must ensure that production does not make a loss. This is a major reserve for financial recovery. The proportion of loss-making enterprises in industry alone is 13 percent, and in sectors such as the timber industry, wood processing, construction materials, and mineral fertilizers the proportion is 19-25 percent. In the RSFSR and Azerbaijan, one enterprise in five is in such a position. As a result the national economy fails to receive national income totaling more than R10 billion a year.

The USSR People's Control Committee and the USSR Ministry of Finance recently checked on how work to eliminate losses in the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry is being organized. The ministry has not approached this work with sufficient thoroughness and has not suggested substantial measures to further improve the assimilation of production capacities or to make comprehensive use of raw materials. As a result almost one-third of wood processing industry enterprises will still be unprofitable by 1990.

Positive experience must be used in order to accelerate the elimination of shortcomings in economic and financial activity. For example, in the Ukraine and Latvia the proportion of unprofitable enterprises has fallen by more than one-half in the past 5 years. The aim is to unconditionally eliminate losses in all sectors and regions by the end of the 5-year plan.

The importance of the time factor increases immeasurably under conditions of restructuring. Everything must be done to accelerate the turnover of production capital and material and financial resources and to increase the return on each ruble. The value of material circulating capital alone has reached R470 billion. The acceleration of its turnover by even a single day will save more than R4 billion.

This task should be tackled thoroughly and without delay. It is planned to accelerate the turnover rate of circulating capital by 4-5 days before the end of the 5-year plan and thus yield R20 billion. To date, however, there have been no noticeable improvements. What is more, many enterprises continue to accumulate above-normative stocks of commodities and material assets. The value of these stocks of raw and other materials and semimanufactures in industry has risen to R27 billion.

The law grants enterprises and associations extensive rights in the sale of surplus raw and other materials and equipment, including sales to the population. Commercial sales activity should be stepped up and the mobility of resources increased.

Payment discipline in the national economy must be substantially tightened up. Nonpayments and debts aggravate the financial situation, disrupt the normal production rhythm, and undermine economic accountability.

Attitudes toward the safekeeping of circulating capital must be radically changed. It is part of the state's property put at the disposal of labor collectives. They bear full responsibility for preserving and augmenting it.

Numerous cases of the "eating away" of circulating capital are still being encountered. The Georgian SSR Ministry of Construction allowed a shortfall of R288 million in circulating capital in an annual volume of construction and installation work of R478 million. As a result there was a constant failure to settle suppliers' accounts and the payment of wages was delayed. The sector was brought to the verge of bankruptcy. The republic has taken measures against the culprits, but conclusions must be drawn for the future and the damage caused must be recouped by improvements in work.

Strengthening the policy of thrift is the real way to increase accumulations. Restrictions on incentives for making savings have now been removed and the size of the revenue and the material prosperity of labor collectives are directly dependent on saving resources and economical management. Nevertheless, annual losses and nonproductive expenditure exceed R20 billion.

These include losses resulting from natural disasters and fires. It is clearly expedient to think about introducing insurance for enterprises that have switched to full economic accountability. This will be advantageous to collectives and state alike.

It is necessary to ensure a genuinely proprietorial attitude to the people's assets in all links of production and management. Think about the kopek at work and the ruble will look after itself—this simple popular maxim must become an absolute rule of management and an efficient economy. All collectives should lose no time in considering how best to make savings on raw and other materials and fuel. Every working person must be aware of his own specific contribution to increasing the income of the enterprise and the state and must have a personal savings tally.

The national economy cannot be made more efficient without restructuring the management apparatus. An enormous sum—more than R40 billion—is spent annually on its upkeep. The grossly inflated management apparatus must be streamlined and substantially reduced, which will enable considerable manpower and financial savings to be made. Enterprises and economic organs have now been provided with an economic interest to this end. The rights that have been granted must be used skillfully and labor collectives must be helped to improve management and increase the productiveness of management work.

Boosting production itself and its efficiency and enhancing output quality are the decisive factor in improving the financial situation in the national economy. It is necessary to link scientific and technical progress and the introduction of advanced labor organization more closely to financial end results. Under conditions of full economic accountability and self-financing all aspects of production must be linked in the most direct way with the reduction of costs and the improvement of profitability and income. If this does not happen, it means that the economy is being run inefficiently and by the old methods.

The improvement of the financial situation is inextricably linked with the improvement of the structure of social production and national economic proportions. The ultimate aim of this is to achieve balance in physical and value terms.

Strengthening money circulation is an integral part of improving finances. This requires a comprehensive and broad approach. It is a matter of bringing into play all factors increasing the ruble's purchasing power. The set normatives for the correlation between the growth of wages and labor productivity must be strictly observed and money income must be fully backed up with goods and services. These principles of socialist management are often not observed in practice, which leads to the payment of money that has essentially not been earned and to disruption of proportions in money circulation. Questions of satisfying demand and supply should be at the center of attention of ministries and departments, union republic councils of ministers, and all local soviets. Channels for obtaining unearned inocme must be closed and new forms of utilizing the population's resources for production and social development must be developed in every way. More effective use should be made of an important instrument of controlling money circulation, namely territorial cash plans, and the responsibility of republican and local organs for their fulfillment should be increased.

One condition of stable finances is the implementation of foreign economic activity on a mutually advantageous and balanced footing. Here the improvement of the currency and financial mechanism on the basis of the new principles should play an active part.

The successful implementation of the planned transformations require a radical change in the style and methods of financial work. This applies fully to the activity of the USSR Ministry of Finance and its local organs. They are oriented toward the resolute eradication of petty tutelage and the regulation of enterprises.

Today it is important to secure efficiently coordinated actions by all components of the financial system and step up joint, targeted work by planning and finance organs, banks, and sector financial, economic, and accounting services. They should all act as partners with an equal interest in common end results.

The new banking system comes into operation in 1988. Banks are called upon to strengthen their influence on increasing economic efficiency and to do everything to promote the strengthening of economic accountability and enterprise and initiative on the part of the enterprises. It is necessary to accelerate the restructuring of credit in the new economic management conditions and ensure its speediest restoration to its true purpose.

The strengthening of finance is indissolubly linked to the improvement of accounting and control, which must in practice become important instruments in the organization of economic accountability and the preservation of socialist property. It is necessary resolutely to introduce the methods of normative cost accounting and functional cost analysis of production costs, which are most fully in accordance with the requirements of the new economic mechanism.

It is now more important than ever before to conduct economic affairs intelligently and be thrifty proprietors at all levels. Concern for economic and financial prosperity, for increasing income, and for the thrifty expenditure of state resources should become everyone's cause, the cause of the whole people.

Comrade deputies! The coming year is the year of consistent, energetic implementation of restructuring and renewal, the year of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference.

Now, the party demands, all our plans must be put into practice and a firm basis must thereby be created for the fulfillment of the 5-year plan.

Allow me to express confidence that Soviet people, having launched wide socialist competition, will ensure with practical actions the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development, and will successfully fulfill the plan and budget for the 3d year of the 5-year plan. (Applause.)

Speech by AUCCTU's Shalayev

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["Speech by Deputy S.A. Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU"—IZVESTIYA headline; speech delivered at 19 October morning joint session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities]

[Text] Esteemed comrade deputies! Allow me to report that trade union organs at all levels took part in the elaboration of the draft plan for economic and social development and State Budget for 1988 that have been submitted for your examination and of the social program they contain. We note with satisfaction that the majority of proposals and observations made in this connection by the AUCCTU and trade union central committees were constructively considered by the USSR Gosplan and Ministry of Finance and were reflected in the drafts. In view of this, at its extended session on 3 October the AUCCTU Presidium approved the draft plan for economic and social development. We agreed with the USSR Gosplan leaders that work will continue on some of our proposals.

On behalf of the AUCCTU I would like first of all to stress the exceptional importance of the tasks outlined in the plan. The drafts submitted embody in practice the party's line of the acceleration of socioeconomic development, the deepening of the restructuring of the management of the economy and economic management methods that is taking place in the country, and democratization.

The year 1988 is indeed a decisive year, the year on which the fate of the reform of the economic mechanism and the fate of the whole 5-year plan will largely depend.

We note with particular satisfaction that next year's social program exceeds the 5-year plan targets in its scale and makes it possible to implement a new range of major measures toward the fuller satisfaction of Soviet people's material and spiritual requirements and to ensure the preferential development of the sociocultural sphere. Next year some 11.5 million Soviet people will improve their housing conditions, and targets for the commissioning of children's preschool institutions, clinics, and hospitals will increase considerably compared with this year. It is planned to build more residential homes for the elderly and disabled, vocational and technical institutions, schools, and clubs. State appropriations for the implementation of very important centralized measures to improve the people's living standard are increased by more than one-third. It is planned to continue on a wide scale the implementation in production sectors of that major social measure, the rise in wage rates and salaries.

State budget expenditure on the fnancing of education, health care, culture, and social security is increased by 9.1 % compared with this year, and will be considerably greater than ever before. The volume of production of food products and consumer goods will increase. These are real, tangible steps toward restructuring, the fruits of the party's strong social policy elaborated by the 27th CPSU Congress. This concern for people will certainly be duly appreciated by all our country's working people and by all the Soviet people.

At the same time we are clearly aware that the successful fulfillment of the planned social program depends directly on the implementation of equally large-scale and intensive targets for the development of production and the country's economy as a whole next year. This must be stressed all the more because next year will be the first year in which many sectors, associations, and enterprises will begin working in the new conditions of planning and economic management and the conditions of self-financing, and they will find themselves initially in, frankly, an unaccustomed situation.

In this connection there are a number of questions which cause us, the labor collectives, great concern.

First and foremost there is the fact that as yet a very large number of associations and enterprises (more than 40 %) have been unable to conclude economic contracts for 1988. This work is particularly badly organized at the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, where on 5 October 83 % of enterprises still had no contracts for the delivery of output next year; at the Ministry of Chemical Machine Building, the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, the Ministry of the Automotive Industry, the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, and the Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy the figure was more than half of all enterprises. The conclusion of subcontracting contracts by construction organizations is proceeding only poorly.

That is a very worrying fact.

The fact that a large number of enterprises and associations still have no economic contracts for next year is not only an indication of indiscipline on their part, although that does happen. One cannot fail to see another element, in our opinion the most significant, in this situation—the fact that many economic leaders still have no experience of working in the new way, of the practice of concluding economic contracts, especially for the part of the plan that does not form part of the state order. This will be the first time they have formed direct economic ties of this kind. Therefore, in order to preclude possible hitches in work, they need speedy, really urgent assistance from their ministries and the USSR Gosplan and Gossnab. Otherwise a critical situation could develop in the national economy at the beginning of next year—not only will there be no acceleration of the rate of production, but many labor collectives, not being provided with the necessary quantities of orders and material resources, will find themselves in extremely unfavorable conditions, with all the ensuing consequences. In this connection we would like to stress the ministers' special, personal responsibility for the urgent resolution of this task in their sectors.

Great concern is also caused by questions of ensuring the material balance of next year's targets and the radical improvement of material and technical supplies. These questions are of the greatest concern to the workers' collectives already. Many complaints come in from them about interruptions in material supplies, the resulting large-scale idle time, and then the blitz at the end of the month, work on days off, and so forth. Scarcely a meeting goes by without workers expressing their indignation about these disruptions.

These are the facts. The last 3 days of September saw the production of 56 % of the metal-cutting machine tools and 48 % of forging and pressing machiens at enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, 47 % of instruments, automation equipment, and spare parts at the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, virtually half the monthly target for all large electric machines and spinning machines, and so forth. In the first half of October, once again there was idle time over material supplies.

According to a report from the Kommunar plant of the Avtozaz production association, this year 14 shifts have already been postponed because of the nondelivery of subassemblies. At another automotive association, Izhmash, the main conveyor has stood idle for more than 400 hours—more than 50 shifts—this year because of disruptions in deliveries of subassemblies. Cadre turnover has increased. Hundreds of workers have left the plant...

I could cite dozens of other instances of this kind. It should be stressed with the utmost firmness that neither the industrial ministries, nor the USSR Gossnab or many of its territorial organs, nor the relevant USSR Council of Ministers bureaus have yet achieved a breakthrough in improving material and technical supplies. The main thrust in ensuring material balance is certainly resource-saving and stepping up the role and responsibility of labor collectives for saving materials and resources, as was spoken of convincingly in Comrade Talyzin's report. But in our opinion even in the new economic management conditions this task cannot be entrusted mainly to the labor collectives. Ministries, the USSR Gossnab, and its local organs must share with the labor collectives this responsibility for imposing order in material provision for production, since significant volumes of the most important resources will continue to be distributed centrally. The role of our sciences in resource-saving is also substantial. It is therefore quite obvious that the speediest resolution of this problem—the problem of reliable material supply—is today, and especially will be next year the most important thing in ensuring normal work. All labor collectives have a profound interest in this.

At the same time we support the measures undertaken by the USSR Gossplan and Gossnab to achieve greater material balance through increasing incentives for counterplans for additional production and deliveries of output that is in particularly short supply. This is a correct, economically justified measure.

In the current year many collectives have responded to the request of the Gosplan, Gossnab, and AUCCTU. The fact that targets for the extraction of coal, oil, gas, and iron ore and the production of rolled metals, cement, and a number of other construction materials are being overfulfilled is partly thanks to those collectives which have taken on counterplans of this kind.

Comrades, in connection with the mass transfer of enterprises onto full economic accountability from the beginning of next year, a serious need arises to accelerate the review of the numerous existing economic sanctions imposed during periods of primarily administrative methods of management of the national economy. At the moment some 1,200 of these sanctions for the violation of various pledges by enterprises are still in force. And while economic sanctions for failing to deliver output under contracts are extremely important and should perhaps, in the new conditions, be further reinforced on an economic accountability basis and bear a closer relationship to the damage done, many others are simply contrary to commonsense logic. For instance, a trading organization, on selling a pair of shoes, receives a trade discount in its favor of 7.5 %, but if for one reason or another the shoes are returned to the shoe factory, it keeps back 30 % of their value from the factory. So which is more advantageous for the store under this instruction—to sell, or to reject?

I must say, we receive many letters from labor collectives about the injustice of particular fines and the great losses thus caused to their economic accountability income and funds. It is well known that the government has repeatedly instructed the commission on improving management, planning, and the economic mechanism to carry out work to put economic sanctions in order—in eanuary, February, and March of this year. We ask the commission's leaders, Comrades N.V. Talyzin and L.A. Voronin, to speed up the fulfillment of this instruction. It is also necessary to examine without delay the question of elaborating a clear principle enabling us to make economic sanctions an effective component of the economic mechanism.

Like Comrade Marchuk, I must dwell on the question of the utilization of scientific and technical developments and major inventions in next year's plan. On the whole there was a more attentive attitude to them this year. In particular, about 70 % of proposals from the AUCCTU, scientific and technical societies, and the All-Union Society of Inventors and Rationalizers received support. At the same time it must be said quite frankly that it has not yet been possible to ensure in next year's plan that the achievements of scientific and technical progress are the basis for the formulation of the plan in all sectors of the national economy. A number of very important proposals from inventors did not receive the support of sector ministries. Thus as long ago as the end of the 10th 5-Year Plan one of the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry's laboratories developed a standardized series of brushholders for medium and large electrical machines. Their high efficiency is tried and tested. They ensure a high degree of reliability and freedom from breakdowns, and work for seven or eight times longer. The saving from their use could amount to some R2 billion a year. But to this day the ministry has not organized their mass production, and it has disbanded the laboratory itself. The same fate lay in store for the new manufacturing process known as "Prokatka-Kovka" ["Rolling-Forging"], developed back in 1972 by the collective of inventors at the metal rolling department of the Chelyabinsk Polytechnical Institute. This process has been patented in the United States, Britain, Japan, and the FRG. But in our country, there is still no interest in it...

I could go on enumerating instances of this kind.

In our opinion—and this was mentioned at the 18th USSR Trade Unions Congress—the time has come to establish in legislation the severest measures against organizations, and also workers, regardless of the post they hold, who are guilty of red tape and of causing economic damage to the country and the people because of it.

A second thing. The introduction of sophisticated and efficient scientific and technical developments must be more resolutely incorporated in the state order. In connection with particular priorities within the state order, the tasks of scientific and technical progress should be placed first. But as yet, even according to USSR Gosplan figures, out of 160 new items of machinery and technology ready for assimilation through the intersector science and technology complexes, only 78 are included in the state order. Only half. We should come back to this question again either in finalizing the draft plan, or in the course of its fulfillment.

The program for the construction of housing and social, cultural, and consumer facilities planned for next year requires special attention from state and economic organs and trade unions. Funds of R8 billion are allocated for the program's implementation, or 18 % more than under the 5-year plan—nearly one-half of the entire volume of construction and installation work. Even given the scale on which we are accustomed to operate, these figures must be considered unusual. Therefore the approach to organizing all operations in the implementation of this problem should be different, more responsible and with greater mobilizing force.

Take, for instance, the practice which has become established over many years in distributing targets for the commissioning of housing and sociocultural facilities over the 4 quarters of the year. It can only be called erroneous. Judge for yourselves: The current year's plan is drawn up in such a way that the 4th quarter accounts for more than 35 % of the annual target for the commissioning of housing, 39 % of the target for children's preschool institutions, and 59 % of the target for hospitals. In practice, in the light of the laggardness that has occurred, more than half the entire annual program is to be fulfilled in the 4th quarter.

You can see what tremendous intensity of effort has been occasioned now by this kind of planning, yet all the same we are dragging it into next year too. Once again, in the 1st quarter it is planned to commission only 11.7 % of the housing target, 3.3 % of the target for children's preschool institutions, and 5.4 % of the target for hospitals and clinics. Once again volumes of commissioning 3-10 times greater are planned for the 4th quarter. The timid steps taken by certain ministries and departments to rectify this situation do not change the general picture.

In our opinion the USSR Supreme Soviet should express its attitude to this and advise the USSR Gosstroy, construction ministries and departments, and union republic Councils of Ministers to revise plans of this kind in order to ensure the more even distribution of targets for the commissioning of housing and other social, cultural, and consumer facilities over the quarters of the year and to create, from the very first days of the new year, the necessary intensity at these construction sites to guarantee the fulfillment of this very important and significantly increased section of the entire social program.

The experience of Kazakhstan, Belorussia, and Tomsk, Ulyanovsk, and a number of other oblasts convincingly confirms the realistic nature of this task and the possibility of substantially accelerating the resolution of the housing problem and the development of the entire sociocultural sphere. This task can be resolved more successfully the more rapidly the whole of our prefabricated housing industry begins to work to full capacity, with a three-shift system. The AUCCTU, together with the USSR Gosstroy and local organs, is now carrying out such work, and there is a possibility of completing it before the end of this year for many regions.

Next year, when the Law on the State Enterprise (Association) comes into force, still more favorable conditions will appear for the construction of housing and other social facilities from the enterprises' own resources. But even today we have many alarming indications, including some from the Ukraine, central regions, Central Asia, and other places, to the effect that the shells of apartment blocks, built by the labor collectives, are standing empty because of the lack of timber, sanitation, and other equipment, without which you cannot commission an apartment block.

The Law on the Enterprise states that material and technical supplies for construction carried out using enterprises' own resources are procured by territorial supply organs on the basis of the enterprises' requests. Certain other documents speak of the priority to be attached to providing these supplies for enterprises working in the new economic management conditions to carry out construction on the basis of their own resources. It is very important for these decisions to be fulfilled in the localities and for supplies and other organizational shortcomings not to "trip up" this construction work and the labor collectives' social development on the basis of the funds they have earned.

There are other questions and problems too, whose resolution would help us to prepare better for the next, decisive year of the 12th 5-Year Plan and begin work on fulfilling the plan for that year in a more organized way. The new approach on which it is based, which enshrines the direct link between each worker's well-being and the labor collective's social development and the end results of their economic activity, the combination of personal interests and the interests of the collective, and those of society as a whole, is of fundamental significance for the trade unions. The trade unions see it as their task to study more profoundly questions of the economy and production, to strive by all forms of organizational and educational work to achieve the acceleration of development and the strengthening of democratic principles in the labor collectives' activity, and on this basis more actively to resolve social tasks and to make bolder use of the major reserves available for this purpose.

Chief among these reserves are the strengthening of production discipline and order, the stepping up of concern for the best utilization of manpower, the further strengthening of the labor collectives' creative activeness, and the better utilization of socialist competition for the successful fulfillment of the current year's targets and an organized start to work in the new year.

More than 90 million working people have already taken part in Communist subbotniks devoted to the 70th anniversary of Great October. They have produced additional output worth R706 million. By 7 November all the labor collectives will have held Communist subbotniks.

The central event of next year in our country's life will be the 19th All-Union Party Congress. Many leading teams of miners, oilmen, and other workers' professions, having successfully fulfilled their socialist pledges for the jubilee, are already setting themselves a new patriotic task—to greet the all-union party conference by fulfilling targets for the first 3 years of the 5-year plan and successfully resolving tasks in improving product quality and saving raw materials, semifinished materials, fuel, and energy. The wide dissemination of this initiative will be an important stage in the development of economic competition as a new form of socialist rivalry and an effective means of mobilizing the working people to successfully carry out 1988's tasks. There is no doubt that the draft State Plan for Economic and Social Development and State Budget submitted for your examination, comrade deputies, will be a truly organizing and mobilizing factor along the path of the implementation of the party's economic strategy and the priority tasks of the restructuring and acceleration. (Applause.)

Silayev Interviewed on Supreme Soviet

LD202328 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
0500 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Interview with Ivan Stepanovich Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, by correspondent Sergey Amelchenko in Moscow on 20 October—recorded]

[Text] [Amelchenko] Ivan Stepanovich, what did you see as the main result of the first day of work at the Supreme Soviet session?

[Silayev] The unusual thing about this session is the very great care that went into its preparation. Commissions in all areas spent several weeks carefully studying drafts, and furthermore, they invited the managers of industries and departments. Quite a number of critical remarks were made, and as a result, the content of the draft plan was strengthened significantly. In point of fact, the deputies' debate on the first day was quite specific. There were no ostentatious speeches and no eulogizing, and more concern was shown about how to better fulfil what is outlined in the draft plan.

[Amelchenko] There were very constructive speeches by Guriy Ivanovich Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and Stepan Alekseyevich Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU.

[Silayev] Usually, the way it would end was that the chairman of Gosplan spoke, and the minister of finance spoke, and so on, and also there was sometimes even quite overformalized discussion, but here, you see, there was detailed information and opinions on the draft guidelines of the plan. This, too, is something new.

[Amelchenko] According to my understanding of these addresses, the plan itself is now somewhat different from this draft.

[Silayev] You see there are additions because there were proposals to increase production of consumer goods by more than R150 million. Generally speaking, the specific proposals, of course, strengthen individual aspects of the plan. I would like to say a few words about us machine builders...

[Amelchenko, interrupting] Yes, that would be very interesting.

[Silayev continues]...Are planning to proceed. As you can see, in practical terms 1988 will perhaps be particularly one for showing the fighting spirit in machine building. Our general task is to bring 55 % of our most important output up to world standards.

[Amelchenko] That is a very difficult task.

[Silayev] Furthermore, (?7.2 %) of our output must be updated. We have long failed to manage to do this and (?our levels are very low). Eighty percent of the output produced by our enterprises will be checked by the State Acceptance Service, but I think we will feel more confident because we are facing the main difficulties this year. Quite a lot has already been more clearly defined, and quite a lot has been set to rights. However, the most important event for us is the transition to self-financing, of course.

[Amelchenko] Ivan Stepanovich, the priority role of machine building remains this 5-year plan, and at the same time, it also has the additional need significantly to expand the production of consumer goods.

[Silayev] The plan tasks in that direction are considerably in excess of what was outlined by the 5-year plan for the year 1988. A law will be adopted today on the plan for developing the national economy in 1988 and a law on the 1988 budget. This is a combat program of action for all the branches of the national economy, including machine building, for next year, the middle year of the 5-year plan. The success of the 5-year plan as a whole depends on how we do. This obliges us to mobilize all our forces and organizational capacity and, in the new conditions, not to let down the national economy, but to show that we really are a priority area.

[Announcer] You have been listening to an interview between our correspondent, Sergey Amelchenko, with Deputy Ivan Stepanovich Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, which has just been sent to us from the Kremlin.

Armenians Demonstrate in Yarevan

Want Territories Transferred

AU190946 Paris AFP in English 0929 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, Oct 19 (AFP) - One thousand people demonstrated Sunday in Yerevan, capital of the Soviet Armenian republic, calling for two territories to be transferred from the neighbouring republic of Azerbaijan, an Armenian dissident source said Monday.

Police dispersed the demonstration amid scuffles before marchers reached the headquarters of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, the source, contacted by telephone in Yerevan, added.

The demonstrators carried portraits of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and posters calling for the transfer to Armenia of the autonomous regions of Nakhichevan and Karabakh.

They also protested about "incidents in the village of Khardakhly" in Karabakh, which the source said had been surrounded and blockaded by troops earlier this month after a clash between local peasants and agents of the KGB security police.

Nakhichevan, bordering Iran, is said to have had a population 90 percent Armenian in 1924 but only five percent today, while the mountainous region of Karabakh is still 80 percent Armenian.

Protest Pollution

AU171951 Paris AFP in English 1929 GMT 17 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, Oct 17 (AFP)—Some 2,000 people in Yerevan, the capital of Soviet Armenia, demonstrated Saturday for the closure of a chemicals factory which they say has polluted the area for 40 years, a spokesman for a human rights group said here Saturday.

Waving banners saying "save Armenia from radioctive and chemical genocide", the protestors demanded that Soviet Chemical Industry Minister Yuriy Bespalov face criminal charges.

They also called for the cancellation of further planned chemical factories according to Valeriy Senderov, member of the "Moscow group" of the West German-based International Organization for the Defence of Human Rights.

The demonstration lasted for three hours and there was a strong police presence but no intervention, he said.

Mr. Bespalov was one of several officials who were criticized by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev during the last Soviet Communist Party plenum in June.

Bus Plant Strike Causes Explored

PM162203 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTIin RussianNo 42,18 Oct 87pp 8-9

[Own special correspondent Yuriy Teplyakov report: "An Extraordinary Occurrence; What a Formal Attitude Toward People and Production Leads To"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Likino—A prosecutor tours the shop and asks: What is the matter, what grievances are there, why has work been stopped? The personnel keep silent and try to back away. The conversation clearly does not get going. For almost 3 days the assembly line at the Likino bus plant was halted. The strange silence was irritating. During each of those minutes both workers and enterprise managers were asking themselves, most likely, the very same question: How did things reach such a pass?

What It Was Like [subhead]

Aleksey Negazov, mechanic-fitter:

For several years we worked simply criminally. The most important thing was to get the bus out of the plant gates and we could not care less what happened to it subsequently. The plan at all costs. Money was no object. There was a time when we were paid twice the going rate. People used to be brought to the assembly line from all sectors. They received money both for their former job and for what they did on the assembly line.

The plant was at fever pitch. How could it have been otherwise if there was a chronic shortage now of one thing, now of another. A bus would come along, minus some part or other. We ought to have stopped. No doors? We see about that later. For the moment let's press on, to the end. But at the end the bus, like a ragged forgery of a bus, was 40-50 % incomplete.

Sometimes the assembly line would stop for two or three hours, or even for a day. But they were not parts from suppliers, from other people, on which the blame is usually heaped, but were our very own parts which should have been made in the neighboring shop.

At the beginning of the year we began totally failing to carry out the program. For a month and a half we worked 2 extra hours on every shift. On Saturdays and Sundays too. But the quarterly plan still was not met.

From April things went downhill. Instead of 33-34 buses only 20-25 came off the assembly line each day. We did not get our bonuses. But the bonuses were substantial. Mine, for instance was R100. Everyone lost at least R60-70.

Many people think that the state acceptance cut us down to size. They themselves are guilty, it was said, they have forgotten about quantity. But I think that the state acceptance merely lanced the boil. It is not that the workers began to take a worse attitude toward their work but were simply fed up with covering up other people's sins and other people's inactivity. You can only weather so many storms, you can only be exploited so far!

Everyone needs money. But the conflict did not arise because of the bonuses. Three-fourths of the collective took the step with the single objective that everyone should learn about the situation at the shop, so that steps should finally be taken.

Yevgeniy Chepurin, representative of the state acceptance system at the assembly shop:

I have spent more than 30 years in the shop. The conflict came to a head before my very eyes. Previously the plan was achieved by promises of money. Whether they earned it or not, they still received it. The main thing was to show up for work. Now the money has to be earned. How do you earn it with old equipment? The bus which is manufactured by the Likino plant first came off the assembly line in June 1970. Since then virtually nothing has changed, but even at the beginning the assembly equipment had been planned, if one may use that expression, in an old-fashioned manner. In the pressing shop some of the machine tools are more than 40 years old. How can you talk of quality? The technical control section would accept any bus provided it could make it to the warehouse. But the state acceptance system, like a net, catches even the slightest flaw.

But are the workers who produce such a bus to blame? Hardly. You cannot make a watch with an ax.

The sickest place in the plant is the pressing shop. Virtually everything there needs to be replaced. But when? No time has been given for that. It was neither physically or technically possible to change the situation from October 1986 when the state acceptance system began functioning as an experiment up to January 1987 when we were already operating officially. No one thought that the inevitable breakdown would turn out as such a scandal.

It seems to me that the shop stopped work out of desperation. Of course, before we did not take such a risk, but these are now different times.

Gennadiy Taruleakov, director general of the Likino Bus Plant (he has been at this post only recently. The former director general, Litvinenko, was removed from his post as an incompetent manager by order of the Ministry of the Automotive Industry):

At one time the plant was famed throughout the country. An order was even awarded to the collective. That fame is now of a different sort. But it is not ethical to accuse the workers although there are some people willing to do so. The people work normally but it is the bus which does not meet the present state standards. Yet it is precisely with that yardstick that the state acceptance system operates.

The bus is out of date. For this reason the plant is already paid 5 % less. But it still has to go through state acceptance!!!

Radical reconstruction was needed even two 5-year plans ago. In 1978 it was decided to build a new building with an area of 30,000 square meters. But in 1981 the then minister of the automotive industry gave an assurance that the Likino Bus Plant would be transformed without costly construction work and without expanding its territory and floor area.

"The economy must be economical." That was the fashionable slogan. On the surface it had a convincing ring to it. But the the pity of it is that everything in succession, regardless of specific problems, was arrayed in fashionable clothing. Someone up above approved the ministry's "calculation" and short-term expediency came into play. It proved devastating for the Likino plant. Two sheds appeared and the reconstruction ended.

Boris Kaminskiy, chief of the main administation in charge of the country's bus plants:

When I came to Likino the shop was not at work but the prosecutor had still not paid a visit. Once again someone was bent on intimidating the men. What was the point of introducing an element of criminality here—this is after all a production conflict, the reason for which lies literally on the surface.

Consider anything you like, everthing had been dressed up totally in formal terms. The utterly archaic production organization, for the sake of accountability, was called innovatory. For example, integral process teams were set up. But the team leader had simply no idea how his man worked during the other shift. Hence the misunderstanding with the pay when the common bonus fund was shared out. Add to that the reshuffling of the directors who changed like the alternation of summer and winter clothing; the obsolete bus; the interruptions with material supply when one would have been glad to make something if there had been something to make it from.

For many long years they hung on here relying now on enthusiasm, now on deceit, now on bald promises. I would not venture to blame the workers. When there was a heart-to-heart talk in the shop it emerged that they regretted not the loss of money but the time which was lost because of the muddle.

What It Is Like Now [subhead]

Aleksey Negazov:

Our plant needs to be halted for 3 months. Everything needs to be set right and a new life started. But if you try to patch things up as you go along nothing worthwhile will come of it. I do not believe that the new director, although he is an energetic and bold man, will cope with the situation. He has now introduced a third shift in order to manage to achieve the annual plan. I shall work, I won't leave the plant. But others are thinking of doing so.

Gennadiy Tarulenkov:

Yes, we are introducing the third shift in order to make up lost time. Taking the arrears into account we have to turn out 45 buses in a day. We cannot cope in two shifts. We shall fulfill the plan and then once again there will be bonuses and other social benefits. There is no other way out.

The collective voted for the third shift. Out of 700 workers only 1 was against it, and 15 abstained. This support is the most important thing for me. Now the work has to be put in order, the necessary rhythm ensured, and things will get moving.

The situation concerning managerial personnel is a different matter. We will have to get rid of some. I have a draft order lying here on my desk: Chistov, chief of the production-dispatch section is to be released from the plant. That section has vitually thrown the work of the shops into disorder. All that remained for me to do was to sign the order. But today I have had telephone calls from the gorkom saying: "Surely there is some other way?"

Boris Kaminskiy:

I know who called the new director. Gorkom Second Secretary Farafonov is most of all concerned for the old ways. After the conflict he was reprimanded by the party obkom. The fact that the new director has, above all, consulted the collective is correct. When people know the truth then both the management and the workers will act as one and not pull in different directions.

What It Will Be Like [subhead]

Gennadiy Tarulenkov:

In 3-4 months we will manage to catch up with the plan. Then we will immediately set about long-term matters. The plant will get its own scientific and technical center which will devise new types of buses. Departmental institutes formerly used to look after that. We will also set up our own construction trust. We will start real reconstruction. It is time to do away with everthing old, and not just old habits.

Boris Kaminskiy:

As urgent aid the ministry has been assigned R800,000 for the wages fund. But this is, in general terms, a trifle compared with what awaits the Likino giant.

It is senseless to modernize what is old. The main assembly shop will acquire a new conveyor. Purchases amounting to tens of millions of rubles have been made (including some abroad). Equipment worth R25 million will arrive this year, and as much again a little later. The main thing now is to prepare the areas for "smart" production lines and machine tools.

We have made a decision to put a new bus into production in January 1988. Cautious people tell us that you are in too much of a hurry and beware that you don't break your neck.

It does not matter about one's neck. But it is worth taking a risk, and it is necessary too. The times and the men require this.

Times really have changed. It is of course necessary to take a risk; and to think above all; to learn lessons from what has happened, best of all without a big fuss. In any case, that must be done in order to go forward, bearing in mind that everything good that we want for ourselves rests in our own hands.

Agricultural

CPSU CC Addresses Farmers on Wintering

LD202232 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—The CPSU Central Committee today issued an address to Soviet livestock farmers and all worker collectives in the agri-industrial sector.

It said the wintering period will not be easy and so it is especially important now to adopt more exacting attitudes to performance, observe technological regulations in meat, milk and egg production to the point, cut back labor and fodder inputs per unit of output, ensure high product quality.

The address emphasized the contract system, pay-your-own-way schemes, and the increased accountability of work teams and individual workers for the end results of their efforts as tried-and-tested ways of reaching the goals.

The Central Committee said party committees, local governing councils, economic agencies and managerial personnel on government-run and cooperative farms should show real concern for livestock farmers, provide them with conditions necessary for highly efficient work and offer them well-organized trading, consumer, medical and cultural services.

It is essential to mount a broad-based socialist emulation campaign to cope with the wintering of cattle in the best possible way and increase the production and purchases of livestock products, by using the more effective moral and financial incentives and giving greater publicity to go-ahead workers, the address said.

It described the wintering of cattle as a cause not only for livestock farmers, but also for all workers in the agri-industrial sector as well as organizations providing it with support services and other economic branches.

It is their direct duty, the Central Committee stressed, to keep livestock farms reliably supplied with power, water and fuel, do timely and quality repair and maintenance jobs, and make adequate arrangements for the processing of cattle and the delivery of resulting products to consumers.

Adygey Oblast Fulfills Grain Pledge

PM210833 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Oct 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report under the general heading: "Keeping Their Word"]

[Excerpt] Maykop, 17 Oct—Words and deeds were not at variance among the grain farmers of Adygey Autonomous Oblast, who set the task of fulfilling the plan for the 1st 2 years of the 5-year plan by the 70th anniversary of Great October. Today they poured their last pledged tonne of grain into the motherland's granaries. In all they have delivered 532,000 tonnes. Of this almost 400,000 tonnes is higher-grade wheat. [passage omitted]

Transport Holdups Hamper Harvest

PM191357 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 87 Second Edition p 1

[V. Berezin "Agricultural Review": "Harvest Roads"]

[Text] The USSR State Committee for Statistics reports: In the past week the scale of sunflower, grain corn, rice, and sugar beet harvesting has increased. By 12 October sunflowers, for example, had been harvested on more than 2 million hectares and 71 % of the vegetables had been harvested. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Bryansk, Gorkiy, and Ryazan Oblasts are completing the lifting of potatoes with active assistance from citizens. But 260,000 hectares of potatoes are still in the ground. Feed procurement workers have a great deal of work to do too.

In the first 10-day period of October the weather seemed to take pity on the farmers. The rain stopped in many parts of the country. This made it possible to increase the harvesting tempo. Many farms in the Volga area and the RSFSR's Non-Chernozem Zone have finished harvesting cereals. There has been a marked reduction in unthreshed areas in North Kazakhstan, the Urals, and Siberia.

Farms are striving to bring in the entire harvest. They are getting a great deal of assistance from transport workers.

Railroad workers have been maintaining a smooth operation on the Central Asian, Belorussian, and North Kazakhstan railroads. They are not finding work easy, of course. There was a great deal of pressure at the end of September, when agro-industrial complex enterprises were unloading more than 19,000 freight cars per day.

Unfortunately, not everywhere was the harvest given the "green light." Kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and procurement organizations often detained freight cars for a long time during loading. In some cases you had a similar situation when it came to unloading agricultural products. Holdups were particularly bad at fruit and vegetable depots. For instance, of the 2,500 freight cars which were daily unloaded tardily in the first 10-day period of October one-half contained vitamin-rich products.

Freight car holdups at Leningrad fruit and vegetable associations are causing alarm and anxiety. Every day there have been at least 600 freight cars waiting to be unloaded. The situation is no better in Moscow. Unloading of transport is unsatisfactory in Gorkiy, Yaroslavl, and Irkutsk Oblasts.

Rolling stock delays are leading to disrupted schedules. A number of railroads are failing to supply rolling stock as planned. In the first 10-day period of October the Ukraine was 500 freight cars short for sugar shipment purposes. The finished product is piling up at plants while enterprises have had to pay penalties to trade organizations for failing to meet contract pledges. The Ministry of Railways is neglecting sugar beet shipments. The Southeast Railroad failed to supply Ranenburg Station with even one-half of the planned freight cars. The Dnepr and Donetsk Railroads have failed to meet sugar beet shipment schedules.

Truck drivers also have a difficult task to perform during harvesting and feed procurement. More than 1 million trucks belonging to kolkhozes and sovkhozes, industrial enterprises, and military units are engaged in the fall campaign. Drivers are in a hurry to carry the grain from the combines to the threshing floor and elevator. The bulk of it has now been delivered. It is still being taken from fields in eastern parts. In northern oblasts of Kazakhstan they are making successful use of the combine-trailer system and batch methods of conveying the grain from the combines. This markedly reduces harvesting unit holdups and the need for trucks.

Feed constitutes a large part of the freight traffic. In the first 9 months of the year alone agro-industrial motor vehicle transport conveyed over 160 million tonnes of silage and other types of forage. By 12 October the country's farms had laid in a total of 78.1 million tonnes of hay, 85.7 million tonnes of haylage, 91 million tonnes of straw, and 254.5 million tonnes of silage.

Despite the difficult weather conditions shipments of agricultural products have markedly increased this year. The work of heavy trucks and truck trains delivering grain and sugar beet is planned on the basis of hourly schedules.

At the same time, there is concern at the fact that in a number of union republics there has been an unwarranted drop in daily productivity per truck. Whereas for agro-industrial enterprises in general this indicator has reached 19 tonnes, it is 14 in Belorussia and around 9 tonnes in Turkmenia. The performance of trucks over 24 hours remains poor in some republics.

In recent days transport operations have been hampered by a lack of fuel and lubricants. In some places trucks would sit there doing nothing while the harvest rotted in the fields. Now things have been rectified and fuel has been provided. But the situation must be seriously analyzed by petrochemical personnel and the leaders of the USSR State Committee the Supply of Petroleum Products. Why did it happen that at the busiest stage of the harvest there was no fuel at the depots although the USSR state Agro-Industrial Committee had ordered it in good time?

The Great October festival will soon be upon us. The working people in the country's agro-industrial complex are trying to speed up completion of the harvest work, provide the homeland with more grain and other products, and improve food supplies for the populace.

Media Report 15-18 October Developments

LD170455 [Editorial report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 15-18 October. GMT times of broadcast are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

15 October

Grain harvesting in Chelyabinsk Oblast is being completed on the last 4,000 hectares. The end of harvesting, which is now near, was delayed almost 2 months by bad weather and a lack of resilience on the part of farm leaders. More than 100,000 hectares had to be written off as it was rotting in swaths. (0100)

Autumn ploughing has been completed to date on 10 million hectares in Kazakhstan. There is considerable lagging behind in such oblasts as Chimkent and Aktyubinsk, though. Snow has fallen in many regions of the republic and lagging behind in field work may have a considerable effect on the future harvest. (0700)

Grain havest data to date from Kazakhstan: From a total of 23,567,000 hectares grains have been harvested from 20,711,000 hectares. Still remaining to be harvested are: in North Kazakhstan Oblast, 90,000 hectares; in Kokchetav, 130,000 hectares; and in Kustanay, 570,000 hectares. (0910)

Farms in the Altay Kray have sold 316 million metric tons of grain to the state, despite difficult weather conditions. Grain sales continue. Farms in the Trans-Baykal region have sold 1 million metric tons of grain—in some rayons the yield reached 40 quintals per hectare. Latvian farms have overfulfilled the state plan, having delivered 350,000 metric tons of grain to procurement centers. (1100)

Latvian and Altay farms have overfilled their plans for grain sales to the state. Altogether, throughout the country by the beginning of this week grain and bean crops have been harvested from 104.5 million hectares. However, much work remains to be done with corn from grain, sunflower, and soy beans, as well as in the cotton fields. Potatoes have been lifted from 94 percent of the area under the crop. Feed is being laid in for the wintering of state-owned livestock: more than 16 quintals per head of cattle of feed units has been laid in so far; this is good compared to last year, but feed procurement rates are uneven throughout the country. (1200)

In Zabaykale, a million metric tons of grain have been threshed to date. But the sale of grain to the state is taking too long, with only five rayons completing it on time. (Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530)

16 October

Tula Oblast has fulfilled its plan for sales of grain to the state and is dispatching grain to Yaroslavl, Ivanovo, and other oblasts. Almost 2.5 million metric tons of cotton has been picked so far in Uzbekistan. The Tashkent harvest is particularly good. (0700)

Belgorod Oblast farms have delivered 3.21 million metric tons of sugar beets to procurement centers to date. Thus, this year's plan and pledges in honor of the Great October Socialist Revolution anniversary have been fulfilled. Uzbek farms have harvested to date almost 2.5 million metric tons of cotton. (0900)

Kazakhstan's mechanizers are reaping grain on the million hectares. Harvesting is proceeding in unusually difficult conditions in the republic's virgin land oblasts: rain almost every day, frequent snowfalls. Despite the difficult harvesting campaign, many Kazakhstan oblasts have already completed the harvest. (1200)

Workers in Stavropol kray's agro-industrial complex today fulfilled their pledge to fulfil the plan for 2 years of the 5-year plan-period for the sale to the state of the main kinds of crop farming and animal husbandry produce. Sowing of winter cereal crops is drawing to a close. Feed reserves are more plentiful than ever before. Their procurement is continuing, but already now more hay, silage, and haylage have been laid in than last year. (1200)

Turkmenistan's crop farmers have laid in more than 1 million metric tons of green bulk for silage. (1200)

17 October

Since the start of the harvest, 1 million metric tons of cotton have been picked in Uzbekistan. (0900)

Volyn Oblast has overfulfilled the plan for potato sales to the state, having supplied 242,000 metric tons. More are still coming in from the fields. (0900)

Adygey Autonomous Oblast farmers today fulfilled their pledges for the sale of grain to the state: 532,000 metric tons, including almost 400,000 metric tons of wheat of higher quality, were delivered. Rice and corn harvesting is now in full swing in Adygey Oblast. (1200)

Bryansk Oblast farms have fulfilled the plan for the sale of sugar beets. Over 130,000 metric tons of beets have been delivered to the processing centers. Many intensive work collectives have obtained a high yield in the difficult conditions this summer. (1200)

Nine million inhabitants of Uzbekistan took part this morning in a subbotnik. They concentrated their efforts on the cotton fields; the abundant but late harvest must be saved from the [word indistinct] bad weather, and therefore, the workers of all towns in the republic set off early in the morning to kolkhozes and sovkhozes under their patronage. (1200)

18 October

Potato lifting is coming to an end in the Ukraine, where intensive cultivation methods were employed in over a quarter of the area given to potatoes. The yield has been as high as 200 quintals per hectare and more. About 6.25 million metric tons of potatoes have been procured. However, farmers in a number of oblasts, particularly in the south of the republic, are taking a long time to sell their potatoes to the state and building up stocks of seed potatoes. (1200)

The grain reception points of Bryansk Oblast are continuing to work intensively around the clock even though the oblast fulfilled the plan for the sale of grain to the state almost 1-and-1/2 months ago. For the first time in 10 years all the rayons have not only laid in seed and built up a good store of feed, but also are now actively involved in the above-plan sale of grain to the state. (1530)

Tatariya's agro-industrial complex has completed the harvesting of late industrial crops. Sugar beet has been brought in from 50,000 hectares despite bad weather, and this harvest is now over. (1900)

Scientific

Cosmos-1892 Satellite Launched

LD201508 Moscow TASS in English 1458 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—The Soviet Union today launched an artificial earth satellite of the Cosmos series to continue exploration of outer space.

Cosmos-1892 was placed in the orbit with the following parameters:

- Initial period of revolution — 97.8 minutes,

- Maximum distance from the earth's surface — 678 kilometres,

- Minimum distance — 647 km,

- Inclination of the orbit — 82.5 degrees.

The on-board equipment is functioning normally.

Role of State Science Panel Enhanced

PM201300 Moscow SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSSR: OTDEL in Russian No 34, 1987 pp 691-705

[CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution dated 17 July 1987: "On Enhancing the Role of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology in Managing Scientific and Technical Progress in the Country"; boldface passages as published]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers point out that implementation of the strategic policy approved by the 27th party congress of accelerating the Soviet society's socioeconomic development, ensuring that the country attains foremost scientific and technical heights, and enhancing the people's well-being, requires major measures to increase the pace of scientific and technical progress and a profound restructuring of the system of managing development of science and technology.

A powerful scientific and technical potential has been created in the country, making it possible to resolve many complex national economic tasks. At the same time, the efficiency of its utilization is still clearly inadequate. As the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum pointed out, scientific and technical progress in the country has slowed down. There is laggardness in a number of very important directions, and the preferential development of science and technology is not being ensured with due regard to the world's scientific and technical revolution. Cases continue to occur where even the most progressive technical ideas are not put into practice. Foreign technical solutions are frequently borrowed unjustifiably, even when we have our own developments ensuring high technical standards and competitiveness of Soviet equipment and technology on the world market.

The chief reason for this situation is that scientific and technical progress has not been organically incorporated in all economic processes.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology fails to carry out purposeful, persistent work on shaping, jointly with other organs of state management, an effective economic mechanism to ensure activation of academy, VUZ, and sectoral science, increased cooperation between science and production, and constant acceleration of the pace of scientific and technical progress.

In their practical activities, the USSR Gosplan, the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, and other central economic departments fail to pursue a policy of increasing production of high technology output. The scientific forecasts of the USSR Academy of Sciences do not substantiate profoundly enough the influence of scientific and technical progress on the national economy's development.

As a result of this, economic and social development plans are not fully underpinned by broad use of scientific and technical achievements and do not have the proper impact on development of new directions of scientific and technical progress.

Acceleration of scientific and technical progress has still not become the chief task of ministries, departments, associations, and enterprises. Development of sectors of the national economy and of many associations, enterprises, and scientific research, planning and design, and technological organizations is poorly coordinated with the strategic goals of scientific and technical progress. Occupying a monopoly position in the sectors, many head institutes stand in the way of introducing developments carried out in academy establishments, VUZ's, and other sectoral institutes, and frequently hold back from using inventors' suggestions.

Questions of strengthening science's material and experimental base, along with developing scientific instrument making and the entire system of service to scientific and technical activity, are resolved extremely slowly. An efficient system has not been set up to gather, analyze, generalize, and utilize information on achievements and development trends in Soviet and foreign science and technology.

Inadequate use is made of the working people's creative activeness in management of scientific and technical progress. Invention and rationalization activity is not coordinated with the vital tasks of enhancing the technical standard and efficiency of production and output quality. Many important inventions do not receive timely reflection in economic and social development plans and are not realized.

The potential of international scientific and technical cooperation is utilized badly. Work on realizing the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000 lacks a creative, innovative approach ensuring dynamic development of cooperation with socialist countries' organizations and enterprises in science and technology.

Restructuring of the national economy's leadership largely depends on efficient management of scientific and technical progress. At the same time, the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is only slowly restructuring its activity in accordance with the new requirements. Its work mainly entails resolving current questions, frequently of a narrow sectoral nature, which do not determine the statewide strategy of scientific and technical development. Unjustifiably great attention to day-to-day regulation of the course of fulfilling the overgrown number of scientific and technical programs prevents the committee from concentrating efforts on key questions of shaping and practically implementing a unified state scientific and technical policy, on making an analytical assessment of science and technology development, resolving major intersectoral scientific and technical problems, and coordinating the sectors' activities in elaborating a technical development strategy.

Serious shortcomings exist in the training of scientific cadres and also in the supply of cadres to the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology.

With a view to enhancing the role of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology in managing scientific and technical progress in the country, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers resolve:

1. Unswerving implementation of the party's strategy for accelerating the country's socioeconomic development based on efficient utilization of the potential of the scientific and technical revolution is to be considered the chief aspect of the activity of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology.

Paramount attention is to be devoted to determining the priority directions of scientific and technical progress, resolving major scientific and technical intersectoral problems, organizing development of fundamentally new equipment, technology, and materials, and exercising control over the scientific and technical standard of national economic sectors, over the conformity of production with the best world achievements, and over shaping of a network of scientific research, planning and design, and technological organizations.

The activity of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to be concentrated on elaboration, jointly with central economic departments and other organs of state management, and on constant improvement of an economic mechanism which will ensure steady enhancement of the technical standard of social production and strengthening, efficient utilization of scientific and technical potential under conditions of broader independence for associations, enterprises, and organizations, their work on principles of full economic accountability [khozyaystvennyy raschet] and self-financing, and enhanced responsibility of ministries and management organs of large national economic complexes for development of scientific and technical progress.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology must regularly carry out scientific and technical forecasting and ensure concentration of the resources of academy, VUZ and sectoral science in priority directions of scientific and technical progress, leadership of the state system of scientific and technical information, deepening of scientific and technical cooperation with the CEMA countries, and development of invention and rationalization. Improving the Shaping and Realization of Long-term Directions of Scientific and Technical Progress [subhead]

2. The Comprehensive Program of the USSR's Scientific and Technical Progress Over the Next 20 Years is to be considered the most important preplan document and the basis for long-term and 5-year planning, in full accordance with the CPSU's economic strategy.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, the USSR Academy of Sciences, and the USSR Gosstroy are to implement measures to fundamentally improve elaboration of the Comprehensive Program of the USSR's Scientific and Technical Progress Over the Next 20 Years and enhance scientific substantiation of the most promising directions for accelerating scientific and technical progress and the country's socioeconomic development, its technical and economic assessmments of the most important achievements of Soviet and world science and technology, and conclusions and proposals for utilizing them in the national economy, making provision here for several variants, ways, and means to resolve set tasks. Clearer concretization of recommendations for the next 5-year period is to be ensured when drawing up the comprehensive program.

Leading scientific organizations and prominent scientists and specialists are to be involved in elaborating the Comprehensive Program of the USSR's Scientific and Technical Progress Over the Next 20 Years. Work on the comprehensive program must be carried out constantly, and it must be amplified and updated every 5 years. The comprehensive program is to be submitted to the USSR Council of Ministers, as well as to the USSR Gosplan and the standing organs of the USSR Council of Ministers, not later than 3 years before the start of the next 5-year plan.

Enhancing scientific substantiation of economic and social development plans and taking the latest scientific and technical achievements more fully into account to ensure fundamental changes in the structure and technical standard of production and to enhance its efficiency, based on the Comprehensive Program of the USSR's Scientific and Technical Progress Over the Next 20 Years, the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology submits to the USSR Gosplan specific proposals on the Concept and the Basic Guidelines of the USSR's Economic and Social Development Over the Next 15 Years and takes an active part in their elaboration.

4. With the participation of the USSR Academy of Sciences, the USSR Council of Ministers standing organs, USSR ministries and departments, and union republic councils of ministers, the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to ensure selection and substantiation of priority directions of scientific and technical progress.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to be held responsible for the timely and efficient development of work in the priority directions of scientific and technical progress and for the preferential development of Soviet science and technology in these directions compared with the world level.

Work on selecting, shaping, and realizing scientific and technical programs is to be fundamentally restructured.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, the USSR Gosplan, and the USSR Academy of Sciences are to elaborate state targeted scientific and technical programs of an intersectoral nature, providing for creation of fundamentally new equipment, technology, and materials. It will also provide for resolution of major scientific and technical problems of revolutionizing significance for developing the economy and bringing Soviet production up to the highest world level with participation by the USSR Council of Ministers standing organs, USSR ministries and departments, and union republic councils of ministers and will submit them to the USSR Council of Ministers. The list of state targeted scientific and technical programs is determined when drawing up the draft Concept of the USSR's Economic and Social Development. These programs are used when preparing the draft Basic Guidelines of the USSR's Economic and Social Development and draft 5-year plans and during the shaping of control figures and state orders by the USSR Gosplan, ministries, departments, and union republic councils of ministers.

5. (Footnote) (Point 5 is not cited as it contains a one-shot target).

6. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to be entrusted with the leadership of intersectoral scientific and technical complexes.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to ensure priority development of scientific and technical directions assigned to intersectoral scientific and technical complexes, monitor the conformity of the standard of their research and development with the highest world achievements and long-term trends in science and technology development, and, jointly with the USSR Academy of Sciences, the corresponding USSR ministries and departments, and union republic councils of ministries, ensure a fundamental improvement in their activity. It is to take an active part in the USSR Gosplan's shaping of specific targets for development of these complexes as independent objects in the corresponding sections of the state plans for the USSR's economic and social development, as well as for the broad use of the results of their developments in the national economy.

7. Work on realizing the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000 and elaboration of measures for its development are to be considered a most important task of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology bears responsibility for organizing work on fulfillment of the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress in the country as a whole and organizes and coordinates the scientific research and development carried out by USSR ministries, departments, and organizations with regard to the problems and targets of this program, jointly with the CEMA countries' corresponding organizations; it adopts decisions on ensuring fulfillment of the Soviet side's pledges; jointly with the USSR Gosplan, it shapes special sections of the state plans of the USSR's economic and social development to realize targets envisaged by the program.

8. With a view to the timely startup of production of fundamentally new kinds of equipment, technology, and materials created in accordance with the state targeted scientific and technical programs and the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000, as well as realizing in the national economy the most important developments of intersectoral scientific and technical complexes and of academy and VUZ science and major inventions of statewide significance, the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, with the participation of the USSR Academy of Sciences, the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, and USSR ministries and departments, is to shape state orders for development of science and technology,

submit to the USSR Gosplan proposals for placing them and including them in the draft state plans for the USSR's economic and social development, and monitor their fulfillment.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to be entrusted with submitting to the USSR Council of Ministers conclusions on the draft state plans for the USSR's economic and social development as to how far they have taken account of science and technology achievements and their long-term development trends.

9. The USSR Gosplan and the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology are to shape within the state plans for the USSR'm economic and social development state orders for development of experimental bases of intersectoral scientific and technical complexes, as well as organizations and enterprises fulfilling state targeted scientific and technical programs.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is also to regularly analyze the state of and effectively monitor development of the experimental base of scientific instrument making in the country.

10. Jointly with the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to ensure leadership of the work of USSR ministries and departments in organizing training of candidates and doctors of sciences with due regard to development of the latest directions of science and technology; it is to draw up in the prescribed manner long-term and annual plans for training and distribution of scientific cadres.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to be entrusted with monitoring the activity of the USSR Council of Ministers Higher Certification Commission. Improving Management of the Development and Efficient Utilization of the Country's Scientific and Technical Potential [subhead]

11. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to periodically make a comprehensive analysis of the scientific and technical level of sectors of the national economy and monitor conformity of production with the best world achievements and efficiency of utilization of the sectoral scientific and technical potential and its ties with academy and VUZ science.

It is laid down that the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology carries out selective expert evaluation of the most important types of output and basic technologies, as well as technological part of projects for constructing, enlarging, modernizing, and retooling the most important enterprises.

On the basis of analysis and assessments by the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, USSR ministries and departments and union republic councils of ministers are to organize elaboration and realization of measures to enhance the technical standard of production and output and to eliminate shortcomings in this work.

12. It is to be considered one of the most important tasks of USSR ministries and departments and of union republic councils of ministers to ensure highly efficient activity of subordinate scientific research, planning and design, and technological organizations, as well as the plant sector of science.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to periodically conduct state checks of the said organizations. It will make a principled assessment of their activity's efficiency and their orientation toward developing priority directions of scientific and technical progress and creating fundamentally new technologies and equipment of new generations for timely replacement of existing basic technologies and updating of products, equipping these organizations with scientific instruments and automation equipment, and their experimental base. The materials from checks are to be sent to the USSR Council of Ministers standing organs, the appropriate USSR ministries and departments, and the union republic councils of ministers. In necessary cases, proposals are to be submitted for changing the work profile of scientific and scientific service establishments and eliminating organizations whose activity is inefficient or of no topical significance.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology examines proposals from USSR ministries and departments and union republic councils of ministers for creation of new scientific research, planning and design, and technological organizations and verifies the scientific and technical-economic validity of these proposals. Regardless of their departmental subordination, these organizations are to be created only for highly efficient resolution of tasks facing the national economy.

13. To enhance efficient utilization of the country's scientific and technical potential and ensure fundamental improvement in the technical level of sectors of the national economy and attainment of the foremost limits of scientific and technical progress, it is deemed necessary, with due regard to the provisions of the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association), to restructure the management system of scientific and technical progress, bearing in mind transition to economic methods encouraging greater interest in a higher technical standard of production and product quality and in shorter times for creating and assimilating production of new equipment, technology, and materials on the part of associations, enterprises, and scientific research, planning and design, and technological organizations.

We are to proceed from the premise that creation of conditions under which every collective will be most receptive to innovations and will have a vital interest in utilizing scientific and technical achievements is a most important task of restructuring. Extensive use is to be made of competition and contract principles in science and technology, including fundamental research, to prevent a monopoly of individual head organizations in the directions of work assigned to them.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to be tasked with developing measures—along with the USSR Gosplan and USSR ministries and departments, and with extensive involvement of the scientific and technical public—to improve the economic management mechanism and forms of integrating academy, VUZ, and sectoral science and production to improve work effectiveness of scientific institutions and scientific services and accelerating implementation of scientific and technical achievements and systematic analysis of this mechanism's practical efficiency.

This work is to be conducted in the following avenues:

a) Comprehensive development of principles of economic accountability in relations between research, development, and technological organizations and enterprises using contractual prices and stepping up mutual economic responsibility of these organizations and enterprises for scientific and technical standards, effectiveness, and quality of results of research and development and for timely creation and assimilation in production of new equipment, technology, and materials.

Introducing economic advantages for associations, enterprises, and scientific organizations is to be stipulated and their responsibility to implement major comprehensive measures for creation and assimilation of fundamentally new equipment and technology, as well as implementing targets of scientific and technical programs of very great statewide importance, is to be enhanced;

b) Consistent switching of research, development, and technological organizations and science and production associations to complete economic accountability and self-financing with use of normative method of profit (revenue) distribution;

c) Development and improvement of activity efficiency of intersectoral scientific and technical complexes, engineering centers, science and production associations, temporary scientific collectives, and other progressive forms of the integration of academy, VUZ, and sectoral science and production;

d) Improvement of the planning of scientific and technical progress at all levels, bearing in mind the following principles:

Academy science, together with the participation of VUZ science, must ensure development in every possible way of fundamental research in the most important avenues of the social, natural, and technical sciences as the basis for the country's steady advancement along the path of progress;

VUZ science, while ensuring high quality in training of specialists for the national economy and carrying out fundamental research together with academy science, must develop pure and applied research and development with participation of sectoral and plant science to resolve sectoral and intersectoral scientific and technical problems (including with regard to association and enterprise orders);

Sectoral and plant science must bear responsibility for ensuring high technical standards in production and output and for constantly improving, renewing, and equipping associations and enterprises with progressive base technologies, and—together with academy and VUZ science—must ensure timely and comprehensive preparation for fundamental transformations in the means of production that will make possible cardinal improvment of labor productivity;

National economic planning is to be focused on implementing the most important avenues of science and technology, including state targeted scientific and technical programs, unified intersectoral scientific and technical complex plans, and the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000, and on resolving certain statewide problems of revolutionizing importance for social production development.

14. Under conditions of transition of associations, enterprises, and research, development, and technological organizations to complete economic accountability and self-financing, it is deemed necessary to substantively review the procedure for financing research and development work. The basis for this must be transition from financing organizations' maintenance to targeted financing of specific research and development work under contracts with clients interested in the work. The sources for financing such work are to be funds of associations, enterprises, and organizations, centralized funds and ministry and department reserves, budget allocations, and bank credit.

Budgetary resources are to be used to finance work: On the most important long-term theoretical research in the social, natural, and technical sciences; on intersectoral scientific and technical problems of statewide importance; and on creation of fundamentally new equipment and technology to revolutionize social production.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to present for ratification by the USSR Council of Ministers proposals on distributing appropriations for science and scientific services envisaged by the USSR State Budget among national economic complexes and avenues of scientific and technical development.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to strictly monitor rational use of state budgetary resources allocated for scientific development. It is laid down that the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, along with USSR ministries and departments and union republic councils of ministers, bears responsibility for effective use of these resources.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, along with the USSR Gosplan and the USSR Ministry of Finance, is to define within 6 months of this resolution the procedure for financing research and development.

Improving the Effectiveness of Scientific and Technical Information and International Scientific and Technical Ties [subhead]

15. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, with the participation of USSR ministries and departments and union republic councils of ministers, is to develop and carry out measures to improve organization of the state system of scientific and technical information and improve its effectiveness to ensure:

Extensive development of work to analyze and assess information, to create and utilize databases, and to provide management organs, scientific organizations, associations, and enterprises with accurate targeted domestic and foreign information. The content of analytical information for various management components should be presented so that the necessary decisions can be made on the basis of it;

Comprehensive resolution of tasks of developing the state system of scientific and technical information based on extensive use of modern technical data-processing and information technology means;

Accelerated development of centralized and territorial systems for processing all types of scientific and technical literature and documentation, and speedy notification of necessary information and documents to interested associations, enterprises, and organizations;

Improvement of planning of information activity, expansion of economic methods of providing incentivrs for workers in scientific and technical information services, and improvement of quality of information products based on introduction of economic accountability.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to be tasked with general methodological leadership and control of the work of scientific and technical information organs, irrespective of their departmental subordination.

It is laid down that the decisions of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology on questions of joint use of the network of automated scientific and technical information systems and intersectoral distribution of information resources are binding on ministries, departments, and all-union, central, sectoral, republic, and intersectoral territorial information organs.

16. (Footnote) (Point 16 is not cited as it contains a one-shot target).

17. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to improve organization of work to systematically analyze development trends and level of scientific and technical progress abroad. The effectiveness of international ties is to be constantly improved to accelerate resolution of the country's most important tasks of scientific and technical progress and implementation of the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000, carrying out this activity in close contact with the USSR Council of Ministers State Foreign Economic Commission.

Effectiveness of the work to coordinate and control activities of USSR ministries and departments, the USSR Academy of Sciences, and union republic councils of ministers in scientific and technical cooperation with foreign countries, and to study and utilize achievements and front-ranking experience of world science and technology in the national economy is to be stepped up.

Particular attention is to be devoted to expanding scientific and technical cooperation with the socialist countries to ensure joint resolution of the most important scientific and technical problems, organization of such cooperation based on long-term mutually advantageous treaties and agreements, development of international scientific and technical cooperation and direct ties between enterprises and organizations, and creation of joint enterprises, scientific collectives, and international associations.

18. It is laid down that the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology leads the work to sell Soviet licenses abroad and to purchase foreign licenses and models of new equipment by means of the centralized foreign currency appropriations allocated for these purposes, monitors effective use of foreign licenses and models of new equipment in the national economy, and annually reports to the USSR Council of Ministers on the progress of this work.

19. (Footnote) (Point 19 is not cited as it contains a one-shot target). Improving the Activity of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology [subhead]

20. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to closely collaborate with USSR Council of Ministers standing organs, central economic organs, and

USSR ministries and departments on questions of accelerating scientific and technical progress. It is to actively participate in development and implementation by union republic councils of ministers of measures to accelerate scientific and technical progress, to pursue a unified scientific and technical policy, and to concentrate republic organizations' resources in the main avenues of science and technology.

21. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is tasked with leading work to develop inventions and rationalization in the country. Development of inventions and rationalization is to be considered one of the most important areas of the work to accelerate scientific and technical progress. The role of rationalization and inventions is to be substantially increased in improving effectiveness of social production, and work in this area is to be fundamentally restructured.

The activity of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology should be geared to developing working people's scientific and technical creativity in every possible way, improving the responsibility of ministries and departments for extensive practical use of inventions, and monitoring introduction and large-scale application in production of inventions of very great national economic importance.

It is considered necessary for large-scale scientific and technical problems and projects for their resolution to be submitted for nationwide discussion.

It is deemed expedient to transform the USSR State Committee for Inventions and Discoveries into the Committee for Inventions and Discoveries under the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology.

22. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology involves scientific and technical societies and the All-Union Society of Inventors and Rationalizers in developing priority avenues of scientific and technical progress in the country and proposals for draft state economic and social development plans, in controlling use of science and technology achievements in the national economy, in participating in the work of scientific councils, commissions, and panels of experts, in disseminating scientific and technical information, and in propagandizing achievements of science and technology and front-ranking production and technical experience.

23. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology shall be made up of the committee chairman—who is a deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers—deputy chairmen, and committee members, including leading scientists and industrial leaders. The committee shall also include the president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, the president of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences, the president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, the USSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education, the chairman of the USSR State Committee for Standards, the chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology Committee for Inventions and Discoveries, the deputy chairman of each of the USSR Council of Ministers standing organs, and the deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology shall have a collegium. The makeup of the committee and the collegium shall be approved by the USSR Council of Ministers.

24. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to extensively involve leading scientists and specialists in analytical work, to take measures to step up activeness of scientific councils and enhance their responsibility for justifying proposals and recommendations they develop, and to improve the network and makeup of scientific councils in accordance with prospects for development of science and technology and tasks entrusted to the committee by this resolution.

Guided by decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum on questions of cadre policy, attention to selection, placement, and education of cadres is to be stepped up and their responsibility for their work enhanced. Specialists working in the committee must be highly qualified, must be able to profoundly analyze and critically and responsibly assess the state of affairs in and prospects for developing science and technology, must be acquainted with modern management methods, and must implement the party's economic strategy.

25. The organizational structure of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology is to be examined in accordance with its new tasks and functions. It is necessary to proceed based on the need to substantially enhance the role of consolidated and functional subunits in the most important areas of the committee's work, and to eradicate the narrow sectoral emphasis of its structure to reorient the committee's activity toward resolving the country's most important task of accelerating scientific and technical progress.

26. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology party committee is to persistently struggle to implement decisions of the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum, and to improve forms and methods of party work. Efforts of Communists and all workers are to be geared to implementing the party's strategic course— acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development based on scientific and technical progress.

The vanguard role of the party organization in restructuring administration of scientific and technical progress and in cadre work is to be stepped up, and a political and state-orientated approach to work is to be fostered in cadres, as is the ability to work under conditions of deepening democracy, extensive glasnost, criticism and self-criticism, and an upsurge in people's social and labor activeness.

Ideological and political work in collectives is to be improved and geared to education of workers in a spirit of high responsibility for their assignments, ideological conviction, unswerving observance of discipline, and intolerance of any deviations from norms of socialist morality.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers are confident that implementing planned measures to enhance the role and resonsibility of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology will promote restructuring of work to accelerate scientific and technical progress and will make possible achievement of new successes in the country's socioeconomic development.

[signed] M. Gorbachev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee

N. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

Progress of 'Mir' Space Flight Updated

LD201242 Moscow TASS in English 1151 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow October 20 TASS—Yuriy Romanenko has been working in near-earth orbit for 256 days. Aleksander Aleksandrov is completing his 13th week in space.

Today's schedule provides for observations and photography of individual parts of land and ocean, studies in the field of space astronomy and two hours of physical exercises.

Another cycle of experiments has been started to study astrophysical objects in the ultraviolet wave-band. The aim of these studies, carried out with the use of the glazar telescope inside Kvant module, is to gather data on short-wave irradiation of galaxies. Regions in the Puppis and Andromeda constellations have been selected for observations.

According to trajectory measurements, the parameters of the orbit of the manned complex Mir (Peace) are as follows:

- Maximum distance from the earth's surface—354 kilometres,
- minimum distance—305 km,
- Period of revolution—90.9 minutes,
- Inclination—51.6 degrees.

The work in orbit is continuing.